

Hafa Adai!

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## Budget bill ready for House action

By ERWIN ENCINARES  
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REPORTER

**W**ith a little over 60 days left on its mandated deadline, the \$148-million budget bill for fiscal year 2018 is beginning to take shape.

The House Ways and Means Committee adopted the budget yesterday after tedious deliberations at the committee level over the week.

According to committee chair Rep. Angel Demapan (R-Saipan), the fiscal year 2018 budget draft has yet to be released to the public but the bill could be expected today.

According to Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), the bill's author and House legal counsel have yet to sign the draft bill as of 2pm yesterday.

After the budget bill is introduced on the floor this Friday, the House still has to wait 72 hours before they could act on it, due to the requirement of the Open Government Act that all

bills for consideration must be announced to the public beforehand.

Following House action, the fiscal year 2018 budget bill would be reviewed by the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, led by Sen. Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) before being acted on by the entire Senate.

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Photo shows an artist's rendition of the future U.S. District Court Marianas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## GSA awards lease for new US courthouse

**SAN FRANCISCO**—The U.S. General Services Administration has awarded a 20-year lease to Marianas Management Co. for the

construction of a new federal courthouse on Saipan.

This new lease was based on a competitive, best-value procurement

process, according to GSA.

The three-story courthouse will be located on Gualo Rai Road, Garapan, Saipan, and will house the U.S. Dis-

## » Marianas Management Co. to build new facility

trict Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. Probation Office, the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Federal Pro-

tection Service.

The courthouse will include one courtroom, two judges' chambers, a

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At the Word of Faith churches in Brazil, the signs of broken families are everywhere.

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# Local

## Labor: Differences in findings hinder progress

By **ERWIN ENCINARES**  
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REPORTER

Discrepancies in the results of investigations done by both local and federal bodies is one of reasons the case involving the recruitment of tourists as workers for the casino project

appears to be glacial.

CNMI Labor investigator Jeff Camacho said the compiling of information obtained from the workers are being “cross-checked” with findings of U.S. DOL, which makes the process tedious and time consuming.

“I am not sure whether it is our findings or [USDOL’s] findings that are not compatible, but we are making sure that everything is being complied with for both CNMI and federal Labor,” he said.

“Right now, we are just waiting for any settlement

from the respective lawyers of the companies [involved]—if they agree with our facts and findings,” said Camacho, adding that for now, discussions have been ongoing.

The companies involved in the illegal recruitment of workers are Suzhou Gold

Mantis Construction Decoration, MCC International, CMC Macau, and Beilida Overseas (CNMI) Ltd.

Camacho told *Saipan Tribune* that one company wants to send their workers home. Though he did not specify which company, Camacho said rumors were going around that the offer was rejected because the

workers—who are employed by different companies—wished for all of them to go home at the same time.

In response to that rumor, Camacho clarified that there are lawyers representing each company, and each company has been discussing with federal Labor what steps to take.

One of many demands of the workers is that they be paid at the rate of the CNMI minimum wage, which is \$6.55 per hour.

According to Camacho, local Labor has been going through the process of calculating the time each worker has worked, but is struggling because “[the workers] themselves can’t really prove to us that they really worked for the company.”

Camacho added that the lawyers for the companies are pointing out that some of the workers did not work for them.

Some 40 workers have been protesting since early 2017, claiming that they have yet to be paid for their work. Some claim to have paid their recruiters as much as \$10,000. The workers are calling for the payment of their wages, the reimbursement of their recruitment fee, and for their companies to shoulder their tickets home.

## Aqua Resort introduces Cajun cuisine

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

For those in the mood for a spicy summer, Aqua Resort Club Saipan is offering, for a limited time only, a summer Cajun Seafest starting on Aug. 1.

Not only is it a special to kick off the summer, it is also a means to introduce Cajun cuisine to the island with a fun twist.

Aqua Resort’s Cajun Seafest is styled somewhat like what other countries call a boodle fight: the dish is served in a bag—a bagful of seafoods—and the bag is torn open onto each table.

The dish is eaten without

utensils and is eaten straight off of the table.

The seafood bag is paired with an appetizer trio, unlimited choices of refillable beverages, and an unlimited serving of jambalaya rice.

The resort did a test run last July 18 to introduce the special to selected guests. The dishes served were bursting with flavors.

According to Aqua Resort food and beverage operations manager Rom Manzon, the Cajun Seafest summer special is intended to create an atmosphere where every individual is allowed to let loose, get their hands a bit

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Aqua Resort Club Saipan food and beverage operations manager Rom Manzon, right, serves the Cajun Sea-fest special deluxe bag during the special's test run last July 18.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA



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## E-Land says Torres lack standing to bring claims

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

E-Land World Co. Ltd., the majority shareholder of a corporation that owns the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, has asked the Superior Court to dismiss the lawsuit filed against it by attorney Vincent DLG. Torres, saying that Torres lacks standing to bring the claims.

In his opposition, Torres, through counsel William M. Fitzgerald, asserted that E-Land and its co-defendants, while arguing general principles of law, have not provided authority sufficient to show that the complaint should be dismissed for failure to state a claim.

E-Land is a majority shareholder of Suwaso Corp., while Torres is a minority shareholder. Suwaso owns COP.

E-Land's co-defendants in the case are Suwaso Corp., Micronesia Resort Inc., and Kwang Won Seo. Micronesia Resort Inc. is a subsidiary of

E-Land World Co. Ltd., a company based in South Korea.

Torres sued the defendants for allegedly failing to provide a proper accounting, embarking upon a scheme to misappropriate business opportunities and funds, and negotiating loans of over \$5 million without proper authorization. The case was originally filed in the Superior Court. The defendants then transferred the lawsuit to the district court.

Last April, the district court granted Torres' motion to remand to the Superior Court his four remaining claims in the lawsuit—for accounting, fraudulent concealment and usurpation of corporate opportunity, breach of fiduciary duty, and assisting a breach of fiduciary duty.

At the hearing in federal court, Torres agreed to arbitrate his first cause of action—fraudulent misrepresentation. The federal court granted defendants' motion to compel

arbitration as to Torres' first cause of action.

In E-Land's and co-defendants' motion to dismiss filed recently before the Superior Court, their counsel, Richard W. Pierce, asserted that Torres' claims for fraudulent concealment and usurpation of corporate opportunity, breach of fiduciary duty, and assisting a breach of fiduciary duty, should be dismissed because he lacks standing to bring them.

Pierce said these claims allege harm to Suwaso, not to Torres personally, and as a consequence he cannot pursue these corporate claims.

Pierce said plaintiff's al-

legations can only be understood as a request for inspection of Suwaso's books and records under a statute that can only be directed to Suwaso.

Pierce said Torres' claims for fraudulent concealment and usurpation of corporate opportunity fail to state a claim upon which relief can be granted because Torres does not and cannot allege the required elements of usurpation of corporate opportunity, including that the business opportunities in Korea that defendants allegedly "siphoned off," were of a kind that Suwaso could have taken advantage of.

Pierce said Torres' claims for breach of fiduciary duty and assisting breach of fidu-

ciary duty likewise fail to state a claim because Torres does not allege the fraud-based breach of fiduciary duty with particularity, as required by the Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure.

Pierce said not only does Torres fail to specify "by whom" and "how" the duties were breached in both causes of action, but also wholly fails to provide factual allegations bearing upon how the defendants carried out the acts of assisting the breach of fiduciary duties.

According to Pierce, the complaint is procedurally defective because it is vague and fails to provide defendants the required notice of the claims he is asserting.

In Torres' opposition to the motion to dismiss, Fitzgerald said that Torres as shareholder of Suwaso is entitled to an accounting.

"Under principles of fiduciary law, the bylaws of Suwaso, and the law of the CNMI, plaintiff is entitled to receive from the defendants fair and complete information regarding the financial condition of the corporation," Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald said the defendants have presented no authority to support their position that Torres has failed to plead usurpation of corporate opportunity.

Fitzgerald added that defendants have not explained how Torres failed to state a claim for breach of fiduciary duty.

## Korean campers quiz Apatang on Saipan

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**  
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REPORTER

The WOW05 Summer Camp from Korea visited Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang to ask him a few questions about the island and himself.

The camp, established in Korea, seeks to help elementary, junior high, and high school students develop their English speaking and writing skills.

The group, composed of 19 students and teachers—had a lively discussion about Saipan and Apatang himself.

A couple of the students asked about Apatang's way of life and he answered them as best and as honestly as he could.

Other students were curious about the crops that are grown on Saipan and about recent development here.

Apatang shared with the students that the island is abundant in mangoes, coconuts, breadfruit, and many other fruits and vegetables. He recounted that Saipan has just opened its first casino and that is the most recent development the island is currently facing.

Other students asked him

about the struggles he has faced in his four years in office and the projects he and his staff have completed.

According to Apatang, his biggest struggle in his four years as mayor was in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor in 2015. That was when he was really tested and he believes that with the help of his staff and the community, the entire island of Saipan was able to slowly get back on its feet.

He also proudly told the students about the Island Flower project he and the Marianas Visitors Authority are spearheading. Apatang told the students that the project is currently in the works but if they return with friends and family, the island will be covered with flowers and it will be even more astonishing than it already is.

He encouraged the students to come back with their family so that the trip is more memorable, and they too can witness the beauty of the island.

With the help of Yeon Tea Choi, who is currently housing the visitors, Apatang also presented the students with certificates for completing the camp.

## Over 800 apply for SHEFA scholarships

Over 800 students have applied for aid with the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program for school year 2017-2018.

According to SHEFA, 853 valid applications have been processed as of July 20, 2017.

About 293 students will be attending college off island.

Some 560 applicants will be using their grants at the Northern Mariana College.

There are also 51 students who have returned to the island to continue their studies and are applying with SHEFA for a grant.

About 475 of the applica-

tions processed by SHEFA were applications filed by incoming college freshmen, 244 by college sophomores, 60 by college juniors, 29 by college seniors, 36 by those taking up master's degrees, and nine pursuing doctorates.

SHEFA received 395 applications from students pursuing associate degrees, 413 pursuing bachelor's degrees, 36 pursuing master's degrees, and nine pursuing advanced degrees.

As of July 20, SHEFA has denied 12 applications, approved 203, and 638 that are currently pending. (Kimberly A. Bautista)



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# USCIS launches mobile form for replacing green card

WASHINGTON—Lawful permanent residents who file the online Form I-90, Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card, without assistance from an attorney or accredited representative, can now file their form and upload evidence entirely on a mobile device.

The redesign of the online

Form I-90 also allows lawful permanent residents to navigate the site more easily, making the process of renewing or replacing green cards more convenient.

The new mobile-responsive design provides an intuitive method for answering questions, navigating through sections, and uploading evidence

on a mobile device.

Instructions for filing Form I-90 require providing certain evidence, such as a copy of government-issued identification. For those filing through a mobile device, it may be easier to take a photo of the evidence and upload it directly from their mobile devices.

The redesigned online

form also provides a more personalized experience, as users are directed to answer only those questions specific to their case. There are no substantive changes to the policy or content of the form, and the online version has parity with the questions and content on the paper form. Applicants can

access the online Form I-90 through myUSCIS by creating a USCIS online account at <https://myaccount.uscis.dhs.gov/>. There is no cost to set up an account, which offers a variety of features including the ability to track the status of an application and to communicate with USCIS through a secure in-

box. Customers who wish to file Form I-90 with the assistance of an attorney or accredited representative will continue to use the previous version of the online Form I-90. Additional information about Form I-90, including guidance on the application process, is available at [uscis.gov/i-90](https://uscis.gov/i-90). (USCIS)

## GSA

From Page 1

jury assembly room and office space for building tenants. Annually, the lease will cost approximately \$2.4 million.

"Delivering public buildings representative of the federal government and serving the mission of federal agencies across the Pacific Rim is our mission," said acting regional administrator Dan Brown. "We're providing a modern facility with functional space and innovative technology to meet the operational requirements of the U.S. District Court in the Mariana Islands."

The Saipan courthouse design, projected at 35,696 square feet, will meet current requirements for the judiciary's functional and security needs. The design also incorporates innovative lighting and landscaping, energy efficient fixtures and wastewater technologies projected to realize future cost savings and conserve resources.

The courthouse will be in a planned office park.

Construction is scheduled to



This artist's rendition shows the building's northeast corner.  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

start in December 2017 and be completed in Summer 2019.

"While we have a wonderful landlord who remains responsive to all our requests, the district court's needs have outgrown the Horiguchi Building," said Chief Judge Ramona

V. Manglona, U.S. District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands. "We look forward to the new courthouse that will meet modern federal judicial program standards as well as meet our security requirements."

Since 1989, the district court

has convened in the Horiguchi Building on Saipan. The current lease expires in July 2019.

The mission of the District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands is to serve the community by ensuring equal access to justice for all by

providing an impartial forum to resolve disputes in a fair, effective and timely manner pursuant to the rule of law.

The District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands was established by an act of Congress in 1977 and became op-

erational in January 1978.

The district court has the same jurisdiction to hear federal cases as U.S. District Courts, including bankruptcy cases. Appeals are taken to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. (PR)



## SCHOOL CLEANUP

A hallway at San Vicente Elementary School undergoes a thorough cleanup and repainting by an Imperial Pacific International Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team member.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## BUDGET

From Page 1

In a perfect world, the House and the Senate would see eye-to-eye on budget appropriations; however, that is rarely the case. The House and the Senate rarely agree on priorities, resulting in a constant tug of war on where the money would go.

If the Senate does not have any problems with the budget bill in its current form, the bill goes to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for review. If the Senate makes any changes or tweaks

to the bill, it goes back to the House, for House adoption. If the House makes any changes, it goes back to the Senate for adoption.

If they cannot agree on a version, the Legislature may create a bicameral committee composed of both House and Senate lawmakers to iron out a final version.

Once both Senate and House members reach an agreement on the budget, the budget goes to Torres, who is constitutionally allowed a 20-day grace period for review. If Torres is satisfied with the budget, he may

sign the budget into law. However, if he is dissatisfied with certain provisions, he may omit them before signing the budget into law. If Torres is dissatisfied with the budget altogether, he may veto the whole bill as a whole, which then restarts the budget process at the House committee level.

If no budget is signed into law by the end of fiscal year 2017, which is this Sept. 30, 2017, there will be a government shutdown, with non-essential government employees not receiving pay until a budget is passed into law.

## AQUA

From Page 2

dirty, and just enjoy a meal with the family or a significant other.

The idea of a Seafest was inspired by a business trip made by Aqua Resort general manager Kevin Tsurui. According to the hotel's sales and marketing assistant manager Victoria Sorrell, the reason for bringing the idea of a Cajun-themed offering was

launched because it has never been done on the island yet.

Four combo bag sets are offered during the Cajun Seafest specials. The prices range from \$65 to \$95. Each set comes with an appetizer trio and unlimited choices of refillable beverages.

According to Sorrell, the community should expect fun, originality, and authenticity from the Cajun Se-fest special. Expect a meal with bold flavors. From the heat to the herbs, when com-

bined in a dish, it packs a punch of flavor.

A 60-person capacity limit every night is set during the days that the Cajun Seafest special is offered. Reservations are encouraged and tables will not be given away once they are reserved, no matter how late.

The special is offered every Tuesday and Thursday at the Aqua Resort Club starting on Aug. 1 from 6pm to 9pm. For reservations, call the Aqua Resort at 322-1225.



By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International

## USCIS offers grant opportunities

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services is now accepting applications for two funding opportunities under the Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program.

These are competitive grant opportunities for organizations that prepare lawful permanent residents for naturalization and promote civic assimilation and assimilation through increased knowledge of English, U.S. history, and civics.

The two programs will provide up to \$10 million in grants for citizenship preparation programs in communities across the country.

Applications are due by Aug. 6.

USCIS wants to expand availability of high-quality citizenship preparation services throughout the country with these two opportunities:

■ **Citizenship instruction and naturalization application services:** This opportunity will fund up to 36 organizations that offer both citizenship instruction and naturalization application services to lawful permanent residents.

■ **Citizenship instruction only:** This grant opportunity will assist nonprofit organizations in establishing new citi-

(CNMI) LLC has settled a lawsuit filed in federal court by Tropical Gardens Inc., which alleged that IPI failed

zenship instruction programs or expanding the quality and reach of existing citizenship instruction programs. We expect to award up to 10 non-profit organizations through this opportunity. In doing so, we want to encourage the expansion of the existing field of citizenship instruction programs, particularly those offered by small community-based organizations that have not previously received a grant from us.

We expect to announce all 46 award recipients in September. Since 2009, we have awarded approximately \$63 million through 308 grants to organizations that have provided citizenship preparation services to more than 170,000 permanent residents in 37 states and the District of Columbia. To apply for this funding opportunity, visit grants.gov. For additional information on the Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program for fiscal year 2017, visit [uscis.gov/grants](http://uscis.gov/grants) or email the USCIS Office of Citizenship and Assimilation Grant Program at [citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov](mailto:citizenshipgrantprogram@uscis.dhs.gov). For more information about USCIS and its programs, visit [uscis.gov](http://uscis.gov). (USCIS)

## Prosecutor, cop find child walking alone on the road

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

A small girl walking alone on the road near the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe last week has raised some question with its school.

It turned out that the girl, described as about 4 to 5 years old, is a student of a school at the Marianas Business Plaza building. The school staff members had been looking for the girl at that time, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

Instead, what happened is that a prosecutor and a police officer came upon the girl near the corner of Texas Road and the street leading to the Marianas Business Plaza building.

Assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that she and Police Officer Jeffrey Olopai were riding back to the Office of the Attorney General Criminal Division from the Superior Court last July 17, at 10am when they saw the girl.

Weintraub said when they turned the car onto the road leading to the Marianas Business Plaza, they spotted the girl walking down the road by herself.

"So we stopped and looked

around for her parents. Another car coming from the other direction also stopped. It quickly became apparent that she was lost...because she started to cross the street and head toward the jungle area," Weintraub said.

Weintraub got out of the car and started walking with the girl and trying to talk to her, gently guiding her away from the woods.

After a few minutes, she said, a young woman came out of the gate next to the building, saying they'd been looking for the child.

Weintraub said that when the woman stated she is from a school inside the building, she asked to contact the girl's parents to notify them of what happened.

"I followed up and verified it, and eventually spoke to the mother personally," said Weintraub, adding that the Department of Public Safety and the Division of Youth Services did look into the matter.

"I'm just really glad we were in the right place at the right time.

"We are all responsible for protecting the children in our community. If something seems wrong, it never hurts to check," she added.

## Imperial Pacific settles Tropical Gardens' lawsuit

to pay for plant materials that were supplied and installed at the Imperial Pacific Resort Hotel project in Garapan.

Imperial Pacific counsel Robert J. O'Connor and Tropical Gardens counsel Daniel T. Guidotti informed the U.S. District Court for the NMI yesterday that the parties reached a settlement at a conference last June 2.

O'Connor and Guidotti said the parties signed the settlement agreement last Thursday.

The terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

With the settlement, the lawsuit is dismissed.

Each party will bear its own attorneys' fees and court costs.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy presided over the June 2 settlement conference.

At the conference, Guidotti was present with Tropical Gardens Inc. president Francisco Aldan and Tropical Gardens office manager Sunny Aldan.

O'Connor was present with IPI legal department vice president Chuck McDonald and IPI vice president of operations Donald R. Browne.

In Imperial Pacific's answer and defenses to the lawsuit filed last March, O'Connor

asserted that Tropical Gardens has failed to join parties necessary and indispensable to this court action under Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

O'Connor pointed out that any injuries or damage allegedly sustained by Tropical Gardens were caused solely by the conduct of third persons, entities, or parties for whom Best Sunshine is not responsible.

Tropical Gardens sued Imperial Pacific International, which is doing business as Best Sunshine International, and 10 unnamed co-defendants, for breach of contract,

promissory estoppel, and unjust enrichment.

In the lawsuit, Guidotti asked the court to hold Imperial Pacific and co-defendants liable to pay the company to compensate it for lost profits and out-of-pocket expenses under the supply and installation contracts.

Tropical Gardens was allegedly forced to release more than half of its workers a few days before 2016 Christmas, used all of its cash reserves, halted its performance under the supply purchase order and the installation bid, and incurred taxes and other debts.

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# DFW highlights climate change scoping and program dev't

The Division of Fish and Wildlife has been conducting several fisheries research programs that highlight climate change scoping and program development.

Project manager Francisco Villagomez noted that many programs with emphasis on fisheries are ongoing and an annotated bibliography of 28

peer-reviewed climate literature has been compiled and logged for reference.

"In line with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' directive, our team has been collecting data for fisheries management and climate change. We've previously met with members of the Marine Planning and Climate Change Committee in

Hawaii and have made regional partners to develop sound solutions," he said.

Torres earlier said that combating the effects of climate change is a priority within both the local and global community, with the Commonwealth and other Pacific Islands most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate changes and isolation.

"Our CNMI Resilience Working Group is a collaborative effort and with these ongoing research programs, we can definitely measure and see the widespread influence that climate change has on our food source, economy, and way of life," Torres said.

Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary

Anthony Benavente explained that a monitoring program planned to include in-water monitoring of environmental data will assist in climate change scoping and data gathering.

"This data will help explain long-term climate changes. FRS staff will designate sites inside and outside of Saipan's northern and southern lagoon for placement of temperature sensors and these will be placed [near] coral sites where there has been signs of high and low

coral bleaching," he said.

Benavente added that the environmental parameters of essential fish habitats such as sea grass beds and sand patches along Saipan's coast between Oleai village and the Garapan Fishing Base will also be collected to detect shoreline variations.

For more details on the Climate Adaptation Directive, log on to [gov.mp/2017/07/26/governor-torres-climate-adaptation-directive](http://gov.mp/2017/07/26/governor-torres-climate-adaptation-directive). (PR)

## SHRM Guam VP to address Saipan meeting

An official of the Society for Human Resource Management Guam Chapter will be speaking at the CNMI SHRM membership meeting today, July 27, at the Pacific Islands Club Charley's Cabaret.

Dana A. Gutierrez, the SHRM Guam Chapter's vice president of Legislative Affairs, will talk about the 2017 SHRM Employment Law & Legislative Conference she recently attended in Washing-

ton, D.C.

Gutierrez is counsel at Calvo Fisher & Jacob LLP where she practices primarily in the areas of labor and employment law, business planning, corporate governance, and regulatory compliance. Her practice includes counseling and defending employers in all aspects of employment



Gutierrez

law. She is also a member-at-large of the Guam Bar Association board.

During our luncheon, she will discuss the highlights of recent U.S. Supreme Court cases and provide legislative, compliance and regulatory updates which impact the employer community.

Today's SHRM lunch

meeting will be from 11:30am to 1:30pm. It is open to the public. Gutierrez will provide an opportunity for questions.

The presentation includes the PIC lunch buffet at the cost of \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Penny Jones at [penelope.jones@hyatt.com](mailto:penelope.jones@hyatt.com) or Denise Montenegro at [denise.montenegro@hyatt.com](mailto:denise.montenegro@hyatt.com) or by telephone at 323-5867/68. (PR)

## SVES disseminates important info

San Vicente Elementary School wishes to inform all parents and legal guardians of important information regarding school year 2017-2018.

• **Registration:** If your child is a returning student ensure that you have submitted the pre-registration form that was sent out prior to the ending of school year 2016-2017 as well as your child's updated documents (i.e., school entrance health certificate, and updated health insurance). If we did not receive these documents your child's name will not appear on the new roster until they are submitted. You can call the main office at 664-3981 to verify that your child's registration documents are complete if you have not done so already. If your child will not be returning to SVS, parents/legal guardians must

come in to complete a School Withdrawal Form.

• **School Supply List:** Grade level basic school supply lists have been sent out to National and Modern Office Supply. When visiting the stores just give the cashier the name of your child's school and grade so you are provided the correct list. You are also more than welcome to stop by the main office to pick up a copy as well. Note that this is only the basic school supply list. Your child may receive an additional list from his/her teacher on the first week of school.

• **Free School Meal Application:** Free school meal applications are available at the main office. Each year families and households must complete a new application to avail for free school meals. To avoid delays in free meal ser-

vices due to processing, all applications and supporting documents should be received by PSS Child Nutrition Program (formerly PSS Food and Nutrition Services) before Sept. 1, 2017. For any questions, do not hesitate to call PSS Child Nutrition Program at 664-3901/3902 or SVS main office at 664-3981.

• **Bus forms:** There is a new form for bus riders. Parents must ensure the forms are properly completed in order to avail from bus services. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call the Office of Pupil Transportation at 322-9457 or SVS main office at 664-3981.

• **Orientation schedule:** SVS will be having orientation for new and ongoing students. Parents or legal guardians must attend the orientation time based on your child's

grade level. Orientation is scheduled for Aug. 14, 2017, at the school cafeteria. Kinder to 2nd grade at 12:30pm-1:30pm and 3rd to 5th grade at 2pm-3pm. Parents will be provided student placement after the orientation.

• **Open House:** SVS will be having an Open House on Aug. 18, 2017, at 5pm-6pm in their child's respective classroom. Parents or legal guardians are highly encouraged to attend the Open House to begin the partnership for their child's educational journey.

During the Open House, parents or legal guardians will get the opportunity to meet their child's teacher and receive information regarding the expectations set forth for their child's success.

• **First day of school:** Aug. 16, 2017, is the first day of school. School begins at 7:40am and dismissal is at 2:40pm. (PR)

## Kilili wins praise for veterans work

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Following Tuesday night's passage of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act, the American Legion has praised the work of Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) on the legislation. The American Legion represents more than 2 million veterans nationwide.

"The American Legion thanks you for your leadership on this transformative legislation that will directly benefit veterans and their families," wrote national commander Charles E. Schmidt to Sablan. "We will continue to work closely with you to ensure that veterans and their families rally across this country for these improvements. We are proud to fight alongside you for this important legislation until it is officially signed into law by the President."

Sablan credited the Amer-

ican Legion and other veterans service organizations, or VSOs, for the successful passage of the Colmery Act.

"Hearing the voices of veterans across the country, expressed by the VSOs, really helped to guide the drafting of the Colmery Act and helps in all the work we do on the House Veterans' Affairs Committee," Sablan said.

"And, of course, hearing from my own veterans in the Marianas, also lets me know where the law needs to be changed to make sure that veterans get what they were promised."

The Colmery Act, named for the principal architect of the G.I. Bill, makes over two dozen adjustments to educational benefits that veterans receive. One of the most important is ending the 15-year cut-off for tuition assistance. The Colmery Act makes that educational benefit available for a veteran's lifetime. (PR)

## USVI to get \$103K from Interior

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Acting Interior assistant secretary for Insular Areas Nikolao Pula made available \$103,000 for natural and cultural resource protection in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"We are pleased to support Gov. Kenneth Mapp and his administration in their efforts to protect the coral reef and viability of seafood resources in the U.S. Virgin Islands," said Pula. "These projects will help Virgin Islanders protect their unique resources by addressing some of the current threats."

The USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources is granted \$103,000 to:

1. Address the emerging threat of red algae, Rami-crusta, on coral reefs in the territory. The goal is to characterize its abundance and behavior while exploring options for management and mitigation. Red algae interactions with live coral colonies have caused bleaching and complete mortality. The red algae overgrowth has already affected three endangered coral species and the threatened

elkhorn and staghorn corals in waters surrounding the territory.

2. Market and advertise the Reef Responsible Sustainable Seafood Initiative to promote preservation, moderation and conservation of certain critical seafood stock in the territory. Marketing to encourage voluntary compliance with regulations and to reduce unsustainable fishing practices in the local population will include signage, radio jingles, social media ads and a music video similar to the new "Conch Gone" YouTube video hit in the Bahamas.

3. Build capacity of local natural resource management and support partnerships and information sharing through forums such as the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings, which include leaders of 12 federal agencies, two U.S. states, five territories and commonwealths, and three freely associated states. The USCRTF helps build partnerships, strategies, and support for on-the-ground action to conserve coral reefs. (DOI)



### GREEN GALA DONATION

Triple J Saipan presented a \$2,000 sponsorship check yesterday to the Marianas Islands Nature Alliance. The cash contribution will support this year's "Green Gala" and the overall mission and efforts by MINA to improve environmental conservation efforts in the CNMI. Present for the check presentation were, from left, Jay Santos, general manager, Triple J Five Star Wholesale and Truckload; Becky Furey, program manager, MINA; Delfin Camacho, Tasi Watch community ranger; Austin Piteg, Tasi Watch community ranger; and Tracy Guerrero, Triple J corporate controller.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Palau gets \$5.4 million under Compact, other grants

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Acting Interior assistant secretary Nikolao Pula made available \$5,463,578 to the Republic of Palau, most of which is the balance of remaining Compact grant assistance for fiscal year 2017.

Approximately \$400,000 is provided through the technical and maintenance assistance programs in the Office of Insular Affairs to help update land surveying and mapping capabilities at the Palau Bureau of Lands and Survey and maintenance training at the Palau Community College for the next three years.

“We are honored to provide assistance to Palau President Tommy Remengesau, Jr., on behalf of the U.S. under the Compact of Free Association,” said Pula. “Furthermore, we are pleased to support proper land planning and management, as well as training in maintenance and infrastructure-upkeep. Both are critical to Palau as an island nation.”

The Bureau of Lands and Survey will receive \$324,268 to upgrade systems, equipment, instruments, and computers and modernize the existing Land Information System. The bureau provides logistical support to the Palau Land Court, Public Lands Authority and their relevant counterparts in all 16 states. The bureau is

responsible for preparing all official survey drawings, property examinations and survey computations, including map reproduction and printing. Funds will help improve capabilities for conducting land surveys in Palau and provide for digitization of records dating back to the Japanese administration prior to World War II.

All improvements will strengthen an important public service and aid leaders in planning and decision-making for efficient land-use management and protection.

The Palau Community College will receive \$75,000 to provide three years of maintenance and infrastructure-upkeep related training at the college, Palau’s only postsecondary educational institution. The goal is to meet technical and maintenance needs throughout the island nation and to promote local capacity building in infrastructure and public utility services.

The project was endorsed by the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Industries and Commerce, the Public Utilities Corp., the Minister of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism, and four state governors, all citing the program’s direct effect on improvement of employee competencies and budget savings. The PCC provides logistical support

as well as additional financial support for the program.

The Palau government itself will receive \$5,064,310, which brings the total fiscal year 2017 Compact grant payment to Palau to \$13,147,000.

The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (U.S. Public Law No. 111-88 Sec.122) and subsequent discretionary appropriations acts have continued to extend

economic assistance to Palau within OIA current budget authority since the financial assistance provisions of the U.S.-Palau Compact (U.S. Public Law 99-658) expired in 2009.

Funds are provided to assist the government of Palau in its efforts to advance the wellbeing of the people of Palau and

in recognition of the special relationship that exists between the United States and Palau.

The U.S. and Palau signed a Palau Compact Review Agreement in 2010, which proposed continued financial assistance through 2024 and is still awaiting approval by the U.S. Congress. **(DOI)**




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# Retired submariner tours *Topeka* in Guam

By COMMANDER  
SUBMARINE SQUADRON 15 PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**SANTA RITA, Guam**—A retired submariner and his grandchildren toured one of Guam's four homeported submarines during a visit from Canyon Lake, Texas, last July 22.

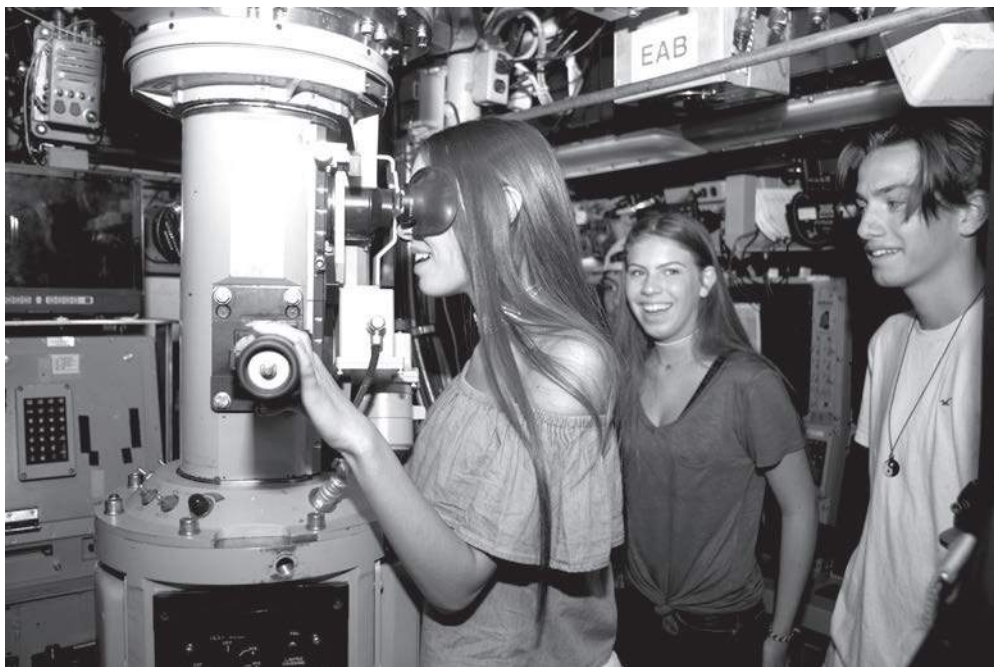
Sylvan Dejardo and his five grandchildren, who range from age 13 to age 20, came to Guam to visit with his wife's family.

"I was stationed in Guam from 1973 to 1977 at the Naval Communication Station and met my wife, who is a native to Guam," said Dejardo. "I loved the island and wanted my grandchildren to experience the island their grandmother and I miss very much [when stateside]."

Dejardo wanted to ensure his grandchildren were able to experience their Chamorro heritage by visiting their grandmother's native island. While in Guam, he took them on a tour of *Topeka* to give them a glimpse into his life in the Navy.

"This was my first time on a submarine," said Brittany Dejardo. "It was really cool to see a different part of my grandfather's life."

Dejardo retired from the U.S. Navy after 24 years. He served the first 14 years of his naval career in the enlisted ranks, advancing to master chief radioman before commissioning as a limited duty officer. He served as the communication officer on George Washington-class fleet ballistic missile submarine USS *Robert E. Lee* from 1980 to 1984 when they conducted ballistic missile patrols out of Guam. Dejardo also served at the service school command, as assistant director of radioman "A" school, communication officer aboard Emory S. Land-class submarine tender



Brittany Dejardo of Canyon Lake, Texas, looks through the periscope of Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS *Topeka* during a tour with her grandfather, who is a retired Guam submariner.

U.S. NAVY/LT. LAUREN SPAZIANO

USS *McKee*, assistant communication officer for Commander, Submarine Group 5 and communications officer

and project officer for Commander, Submarine Development Group 1 detachment Bravo.

"Being at sea on the submarine was my favorite part of being in the Navy," said Dejardo, who hopes his grandchildren consider joining the military. "It's a great experience that builds character and offers stability for career opportunities where they can learn a lifetime trade."

*Topeka's* commanding officer, Cmdr. Steven Tarr III, led the tour group. They began in the crew's mess then moved through the torpedo room, machinery room, control center and topside. Tarr also took them into one of the crew berthing areas and showed them his stateroom.

"It was an honor to host Mr. Dejardo and his grandchildren onboard for a tour," said Tarr. "They asked a lot of great questions about life onboard as well as the capabilities of *Topeka*. Although the technology onboard has changed since Mr. Dejardo was on ac-

Cmdr. Steven Tarr III, commanding officer of USS *Topeka*, discusses his submarine's capabilities to retired Guam submariner Sylvan Dejardo and his grandchildren, who are visiting Guam from their hometown of Canyon Lake, Texas, during a tour, July 22.

U.S. NAVY/LT. LAUREN SPAZIANO

a service member and retiring in the military.

"My advice to any sailor who is in now is to stay in the military," said Dejardo. "The lifetime benefits and financial stability are invaluable, and being a member of the submarine force is one of the most incredible experiences you will ever have."

COMSUBRON 15 is located at Polaris Point, Naval Base Guam in Apra Harbor, Guam, and consists of four Los Angeles-class attack submarines. The squadron staff is responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support to these commands. Also based out of Naval Base Guam are submarine tenders USS *Frank Cable* and USS *Emory S. Land*. The submarines and tenders are maintained as part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed submarine force and are readily capable of meeting global operational requirements. (PR)

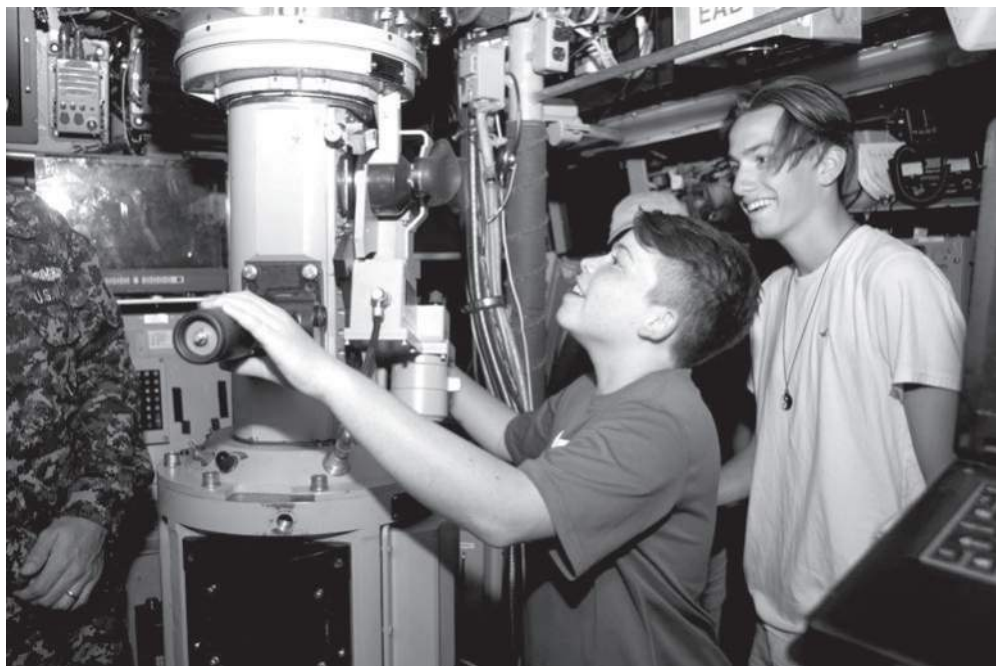
tive duty, the human dynamic has not; people are and continue to be the most important asset in the Navy. Maybe one of Mr. Dejardo's grandchildren will consider a career in the naval service in the defense of our nation."

Dajardo hopes his grandchildren will contemplate joining the military for the benefits that come with being



Cmdr. Steven Tarr III, commanding officer of USS *Topeka*, discusses his submarine's capabilities to retired Guam submariner Sylvan Dejardo and his grandchildren, who are visiting Guam from their hometown of Canyon Lake, Texas, during a tour, July 22.

U.S. NAVY/LT. LAUREN SPAZIANO



Thomas Dorman of Canyon Lake, Texas, reaches to look through the periscope of Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS *Topeka* during a tour with his grandfather, who is a retired Guam submariner.

U.S. NAVY/LT. LAUREN SPAZIANO



## Samoan hospital debacle raises concerns of other insular areas

WASHINGTON, D.C.—As ranking member of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular, and Alaska Native Affairs, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan expanded yesterday a hearing on American Samoa's hospital to include concerns about healthcare in all the U.S. insular areas.

Sablan visited the hospital in February as part of congressional delegation led by House Natural Resources Committee chair Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah).

"We got a first-hand look at the hospital—the deterioration of the physical plant, the lack of equipment and supplies, the difficulty of hiring and training staff," Sablan said. "I look forward to hearing how we can make sure the people of American Samoa get the health care that all Americans have a right to."

"But American Samoa is not the only insular area struggling with healthcare."

Sablan pointed out that as recently as last December, San Luis Hospital in the Virgin Islands was under threat of decertification by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for failure to meet basic federal standards.

"In my own district, the Marianas, our only hospital also faced decertification in 2012. A team from the Public Health Service came to the rescue and helped keep the hospital open."

The decertification crisis in the Marianas occurred af-

ter the Commonwealth government cut off funding and established an independent hospital corporation that was supposed to be financially self-sufficient.

"The [Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.] has struggled to meet the costs of delivering healthcare services to the people of the Marianas," Sablan said. "Half are below the federal poverty line and one-third have no health insurance. So, patients are often unable to pay for care."

Making up the difference has been funding from Obamacare.

Sablan noted that Obamacare provided an additional \$109 million in Medicaid funding for the Marianas. About \$66 million of those funds had been drawn down by the end of last year.

By contrast, American Samoa has used only about \$27 million of its Obamacare funding.

Subcommittee member Rep. Jennifer González-Colón (R-Puerto Rico) expressed concern about \$150 million in Obamacare funding that American Samoa still has at its disposal, while the hospital facility and services have been allowed to deteriorate. Puerto Rico, by contrast, has been able to use up all of its Obamacare money.

The hearing came on the same day that the U.S. Senate was debating a complete repeal of Obamacare, which could take away all the extra

Medicaid funding from all insular areas, and could provide some replacement.

Any replacement, Sablan said, should make the Medicaid program available to the insular areas in exactly the same way it is available to the rest of America.

"Beyond that, the federally-funded tax credits that are being proposed—that will help individuals and families by private insurance—must be available to Americans in American Samoa, Guam, the Marianas, and the Virgin Islands."

"The President promised 'insurance for all,'" quoted Sablan. "We are all waiting." (PR)

## Citadel Pacific to take place in Guam

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas Navy installations will participate in Exercise Citadel Pacific 2017, which will take place on July 31 to Aug. 4.

This annual exercise is designed to enhance the training, readiness and capability of Navy security forces to respond to threats to Navy installations and units. CP17 is not in response to any specific threat, but is a regularly scheduled exercise.

During CP17, first responders will react to scenarios, which may result in elevating the Force Protection Condition of U.S. Naval Base

Guam. Residents and patrons are advised that during the week, exercise response may result in increased ID card checks at the gates.

Additionally, the Trusted Traveler program—a program that authorizes Department of Defense ID card holders to escort guests onto NBG—may be suspended on Aug. 1-3, from 8:30am to 4pm. All vehicle occupants will be required to provide an approved base access credential. Expect delays at the main gate for NBG and U.S. Naval Hospital Guam due to temporary gate closures as part of the exercise.

Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions to normal base operations, but there may be times when the exercise causes increased traffic around bases or delays in base access. Area residents may also see increased security activity associated with the exercise.

As part of the exercise, the NBG Giant Voice system will be activated, and residents in surrounding areas of the GV speakers will hear exercise announcements regarding FP-CON throughout the week. The use of the GV system adds realism to the events for the week. (PR)



## Leonardo-Maria Camacho Clan

Starting Friday, July 28, 2017, a Special Mass will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. On Saturday, July 29, 2017, the event will start at the Capitol Hill Baseball Field grounds from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please come on time and enjoy the family reunion on that day. We congratulate all those that have put in a lot of preparation work for this celebration in honoring our Elders, Parents, Grandparents, and most of all the Leonardo-Maria Compos Camacho Clan family representatives. Sen Dangkulo na Si Yu 'us Ma 'ase para hamyo todos yan B endision ginen I Sainata para todo I tiempo.

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### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Saipan Community School enrollment

Saipan Community School currently has open enrollment for the school year 2017-18. The new school year begins Aug. 7. If you are interested in learning more about Saipan Community School, contact school principal Amanda Allen Dunn at principal@saipan-communityschool.com, call 234-6687, or visit SCS on Beach Road in Susupe. (PR)

#### VA benefits outreach on Saipan

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration will be visiting Saipan on Aug. 31, 2017, and will be conducting a benefits workshop/claims clinic and outreach at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The workshop/claims clinic will be from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Veterans will also be meeting one-on-one with the benefit counselor from 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

Workshop topics include VA benefits, loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation & employment, death benefits & education benefits. Counselors will be available to answer questions and assist with the claim process. (PR)

#### Ayuda invites public to fair

The Ayuda Network, Inc. is inviting the public to a Community and Partnership Fair on Saturday, July 29, at the Filcom Pavilion/Civic Center basketball court from 7:30am to 4pm. The purpose of the fair is to acknowledge and promote network partners for their 25 years of support and contributions to the Ayuda Network, Inc. and the 15 years of advocacy support and contributions to the Commonwealth Diabetes Coalition. For more information, contact the Ayuda Network at 322-7469 or ayudanet@ayuda-cnmi.org or crsp.ayudanet1@gmail.com. (PR)



# Opinion

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Philippine fracas: US military support in internal struggle is unwise

**T**he conflict on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, centered on the city of Marawi, with U.S. military involvement, continues long past its supposed end.

President Rodrigo Duterte has now obtained from the Philippine parliament an extension of the initial 60-day period of martial law on Mindanao, to the end of the year. In his usual brusque, vulgar manner, Duterte had predicted easy victory for the now some 3,000 Philippine troops involved in the battle for Marawi, backed up by hundreds of U.S. forces and surveillance aircraft.

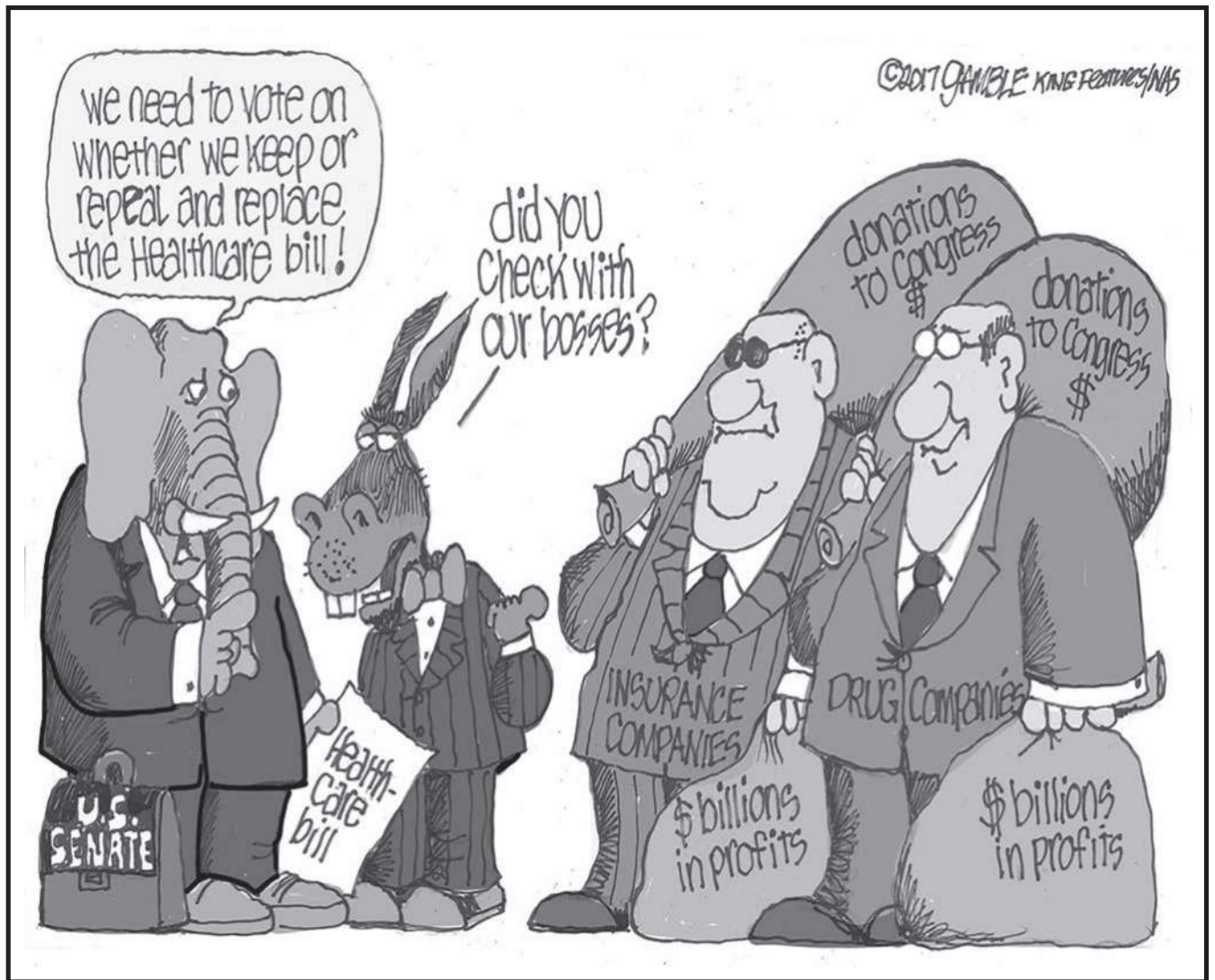
So far, an estimated 97 Philippine troops have been killed, along with 45 civilians and a claimed 405 rebels. Some 300 hostages are being held by the rebel forces. The city of Marawi has been heavily damaged and its inhabitants scattered. The combatants come mostly from a long-time rebel group, Abu Sayyaf, a family group called Maute, and, reportedly, assorted foreign combatants from countries such as Chechnya, Indonesia, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia, some of them veterans of Middle Eastern wars.

Strife between the central government of the largely Roman Catholic Philippines and the Muslims of Mindanao is an old story, predating the proclamation by the Islamic State of the Philippines as a caliphate in 2015. An accord between the government and the Islamists in 1996 was supposed to bring fighting to an end. It fell through after five years. Then there was the deal between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front in 2014, which the fighting in Marawi has shown not to have been effective.

Rather than perpetuate the carnage in Marawi and subject the people of the island of Mindanao, the Philippines' second largest, to the joys of martial law for six more months, it might make sense for Duterte to talk to the Abu Sayyaf head, Isnilon Hapilon. He is reportedly holed up in a mosque in Marawi. An attempt should be made to broker a ceasefire and an accord. Yet Duterte's reputation for brutality, exhibited in his campaign against drug dealers and users, would not make that easy, given that it does not inspire confidence. Nevertheless, he enjoys strong majorities in the Philippine parliament; its vote Saturday to extend martial law was overwhelming. After his annual state of the union speech, Duterte said that the government counteroffensive will continue "until the last terrorist is taken out." Regarding drug offenders: they will end up in "jail or hell," he said.

As for the United States, the American forces should be withdrawn from the Philippines promptly, putting them as far away from this meritless conflict as possible, in spite of its "Islamist enemy" pretensions. This is an old intra-Philippine conflict, not one which should engage the United States.

(c)2017 Pittsburgh Post-Gazette



## Trump is his own communications director

**P**resident Donald Trump almost made it through an entire week driving a positive administration jobs message—made in America.

Almost. Then Friday morning started.

Out came Trump with a major White House appointment that prompted Sean Spicer, the embattled PR face of an embattled administration, to resign. And that ignited yet another media firestorm of coverage about White House turmoil, incinerating another week's painstakingly orchestrated policy message.

Ironically, the latest communications turmoil was caused by the appointment of Anthony Scaramucci to—wait for it—run Trump's troubled White House communications operations.

These operations are troubled—chaotic is another word—because Trump knows he knows more than his communications professionals. That makes their team messages garbled and incomprehensible and their jobs untenable. Not only does he know more, he tells others he knows more and bad-mouths his own senior aides. Ask Jeff Sessions.

While Trump staffers are out dutifully explaining one of his recent decisions, he's, unbeknownst to them, explaining it differently to others. Media gleefully describe the glaring disparities, maybe even exaggerate them, and probe for delicious inconsistencies. The story then becomes, who said what when and who's telling the truth? (See shifting Trump stories on James Comey's firing, among others.)

And Trump, not being much of a Sherlock Holmes, becomes confounded and angry. He wonders why the White House message isn't getting out clearly. The obvious solution: Talk about firing someone.

We suggested months ago that the person Trump should first fire as his spokesman is Trump. Think of what all would not be happening today—including the very existence of the special counsel and his broadening investigation of all things Trump, Russia and who knows what else—if this president had followed advice to pick another time to dump Comey, do it differently or give a better reason than cockamamie "showboating"—and stick with it.

Scaramucci is a 53-year-old businessman and hedge fund operator from—oh, look!—New York. He was a fundraising chair for the short-lived presidential campaign of Gov. Scott Walker and last year posted some unTrumpian tweets, now deleted. Yet another Goldman Sachs alum, he has no professional qualifications whatsoever for his new job, much like his boss. But he is very confident.

What makes the new Comms Czar highly qualified is Trump

By **ANDREW MALCOLM**  
Special to McClatchy

Andrew Malcolm is an author and veteran national and foreign correspondent covering politics since the 1960s. Follow him @AHMalcolm.



likes what he's seen of him aggressively defending the president on TV. Scaramucci has a genial, convincing air, like an older brother, if Donnie Brasco had one. He even has a street name, "Mooch."

Scaramucci's brief debut appearance before media was poised and smooth, as one might expect from a veteran TV talking head. He also had a Fox Business show.

Scaramucci says he'll report directly to Trump, which is huge in D.C. Just that perception gives considerable clout and access. But will Trump listen?

Starting next month, Scaramucci will be charged with overseeing message development and delivery for each day and week, coordinating that with departments, selecting surrogates and making his own media appearances, among other duties.

We'll see how long Trump and Mooch can stay on the same page.

But spare the violins for Spicer. He walked the plank in fine form, thanking POTUS for another opportunity to serve the country (He's a commander in the Naval Reserve.) And Trump said nice things about him, at least on that day.

As you know, the East takes care of its own, even when fallen and even when they're nice guys. Free of second-guessing and beratings for a change, the 45-year-old New York native will be in keen demand for national media appearances.

He can go on the well-paying lecture circuit or perhaps write a book with yummy inside stories about politics in the 2016 campaign, within White House walls and his well-regarded tenure as strategist and communications director for Reince Priebus while redirecting the Republican National Committee after 2012.

Best of all for Sean, what D.C. office wouldn't want to consult someone fresh from the gold-tinted confines of this White House? Someone smart, like Spicer, to at least try to explain how the 45th president thinks and decides.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Car title loans

### CONSUMER CAUTION CORNER

By MICHAEL J. CYGANEK  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

This week, the Office of the Attorney General's "Consumer Caution Corner" outlines the Federal Trade Commission's guidance on car title loans.

A car title loan is a short-term loan (usually 30 days) for a small amount of money. This type of loan can be very expensive. If you cannot pay back the lender, you might lose your car.

#### What should I do before I get a car title loan?

Before you get a car title loan, consider other choices:

- Can I get a loan from a bank or credit union?
- Can I get more time to pay my bills by talking with creditors or a credit counselor?
- Do I have any money saved that I can use?

- Can I borrow money from family or friends?
- Can I use a credit card instead?

#### How do I choose which way to borrow money?

Compare the costs, if you have more than one option. For each choice, find out:

- What is the APR?
- What are the fees?
- How soon must I repay the money?
- What happens if I cannot repay?

Write the answers to these questions. Decide which choice is best for you.

#### I decided to get a car title loan. What should I do?

- Ask the lender to tell you how much it will cost in dollars.
- Ask the lender to tell you the APR.

- Borrow only what you can repay by the date the loan is due.

Each week, the OAG's Consumer Protection Education Program (a.k.a. "The Consumer Caution Corner") shares FTC and/or Federal Communications Commission publications that provide consumers and businesses with the "know-how" to identify and protect themselves from unfair trade practices and marketplace schemes.

If you would like to file a consumer complaint, please pick up a form at the OAG (on Capital Hill) or request one by email from consumer\_counsel@cnmioag.org. After completing the consumer complaint, please submit it by email or in-person.

We cannot act as your private attorney. If you need legal assistance, we will recommend that you contact a private attorney or legal aid organization. We cannot give legal advice or act as your private attorney.

*Michael J. Cyganek is consumer counsel at the Office of the Attorney General.*

## 27 years of protecting civil rights of people with disabilities

By GREG BORJA  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Yesterday, July 26, 2017, marked the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, commonly known as the ADA. Signed into law on July 26, 1990, by President George H.W. Bush, the ADA was created to ensure people with disabilities would not be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the areas of employment, access to our government, both local and federal, and access to private businesses that serve our community.

To be considered a person with a disability, one must have a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity. One may also acquire disabilities through several conditions that are prevalent in the CNMI, such as diabetes. Should an individual let their diabetes go unchecked, one may as a result lose one's eyesight, which limits the ability to drive a car or watch a baseball game.

Others may lose a limb due to amputation, resulting in inability walk.

There are devices, known as assistive technologies like wheelchairs or eyeglasses, that are available to help people maintain or improve their abilities. There are times, however, when the use of these devices makes others not see us for who we are, but instead causes them to focus on the fact that we need these devices to make it through our day.

An employer may be hesitant to hire someone who uses a wheelchair, fearing that they would need to provide additional supports at high costs in order for the person to do the job they are required to do. We must keep in mind that, as long as a worker can perform the essential function of the job, there may not be a need to accommodate him.

The ADA was not created to place people with disabilities at a higher level than someone without disabilities; it was created to ensure that each American was given equal opportunity to succeed in our country and be kept free from prejudices that keep us separated from our fellow Americans.

The use of Person-First language is encouraged when working with or for people with disabilities by promoting the idea that we are first and foremost people, and not defined by our limitations. Avoiding the use of words like "retarded" and "handicapped" to describe people goes a long way when promoting dignity and respect for one another.

Let us all celebrate this momentous day by doing the little things that prevent disability discrimination, like not parking in accessible parking stalls if we do not have an authorized placard and by showing each other the dignity that comes from being an American by staying away from hateful, hurtful words that are used to break people down.

For more information about the Americans with Disabilities Act and/or protections available under the ADA, contact the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. at 235-7273/4 or visit us online at www.nmpasi.org.

*Greg Borja is a projects specialist at the Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems Inc.*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Broad brush

I write in response to a Thursday, July 20, 2017, *Marianas Variety* article written by John O' Conner, in which Bank of Guam economist Joseph Bradley is quoted making an assertion that Guam's lingering issue with H2-B denials is somehow slowing construction work and raising costs because of the CNMI's on-going labor issues.

Mr. Bradley failed to acknowledge that Guam's rate of H2-B denials and significant loss in general of H2-B workers occurred well before issues related to the CNMI's foreign national worker labor force came to be a factor earlier this spring.

The CNMI is dealing with its labor issues related to bad actors using foreign national tourists and the lack of sufficient U.S. citizen and CW workforce. It is disconcerting and close to unprofessional for Mr. Bradley to draw a correlation regarding how the federal government will handle future H2-B renewals for Guam because of issues solely related to the CNMI because it is based merely on innuendos without being substantiated by data or hard facts. Honestly, I enjoyed a period in the Mariana Islands when economists never imposed their personal opinions but advised their clients based on hard data and plain ol' facts.

The proverbial broad brush as Mr. Bradley irrelevantly expounds is also of general concern to the business community in the CNMI, about how the federal government will now apply similar applications for H2-B's in the entire Marianas archipelago.

The Northern Marianas Business Alliance Corp., of which I serve as its president, extends our sincere concern for the Guam community. The NMBAC hopes that you can resolve your H2-B worker issues soon so your economy can continue to flourish and your citizens realize their full potential.

Please also extend your Northern Marianas brothers and sisters the same courtesy by wishing us well. Now is not the time for finger pointing. Our islands have similar issues, none of which are related but are caused by the same problem. Let's respect each other and collaborate when we can to protect our precious islands and improve our ever growing economy for our future generations.

#### Alexander A. Sablan

*President, Northern Mariana Business Alliance*

## House numbers already exist

It was just days ago that I wrote about how my ideas are being ignored for years, then all of a sudden another person comes up with the same idea and the powers-that-be wants to use the idea. Give me a break and some credit, please! I'm not saying the mayor's office took my idea but I have been pushing for an address system ever since the streets were given names. Just like I realized that ending the double-dipping law was the next logical step the moment the Retirement Fund died, I also instantly realized that an address system was the next step after the streets were named if we are to ever get mail delivery to our homes.

Yes, I wrote about this years ago and even offered the idea to several elected officials in the Legislature but there were no takers until our representative from Kagman III, Lorenzo DL Guerrero, viewed my idea as being viable. Right now, Rep. Guerrero and Sen. Mesngon are in the process of drafting a bill to give every location an address. Unlike the mayor's office proposal to "give addresses," I proposed that we use

the already issued "lot numbers" to double as an "address" because that is all the lot number is for—to designate the location of a lot.

It is much simpler and easier because issuing new addresses is really painstaking, redundant work that does not need to be done and it could end up being confusing. Every lot in every village already has lot numbers that are in chronological order and not duplicated within that village, which makes for a much easier structured system to implement. Furthermore, this system is already in place and there are maps already created of the CNMI showing the lot numbers, which makes it easier for duplicating these maps for public distribution. In fact first responders and some businesses already use these lot number maps to find a house or location. So what I'm proposing is really already being practiced. The mayor's office approach is what I would call "re-inventing the wheel" but I do want to applaud him and his chief of staff for trying.

I have already talked with Rep. DL Guerrero and he has assured me that he will get with Sen. Mesngon and that one of them will file the bill in an expeditious fashion. Having completed the necessary infrastructure of street names and address, it can eventually have a big impact on the quality of life, which is why I would not let my idea die. Once we have addresses, we can then start working to get mail delivery to our homes. That will create postal jobs and make life easier and cheaper than driving to the post office from Kagman just to check the mail.

This is not meant to be disrespectful to the mayor or his office because he is doing a great job. I'm just flustered again at the powers-that-be for not listening to me years ago because we still have a ways to go before our postal system is fully modernized with mail delivery.






#### Ambrose M. Bennett

*Kagman, Saipan*

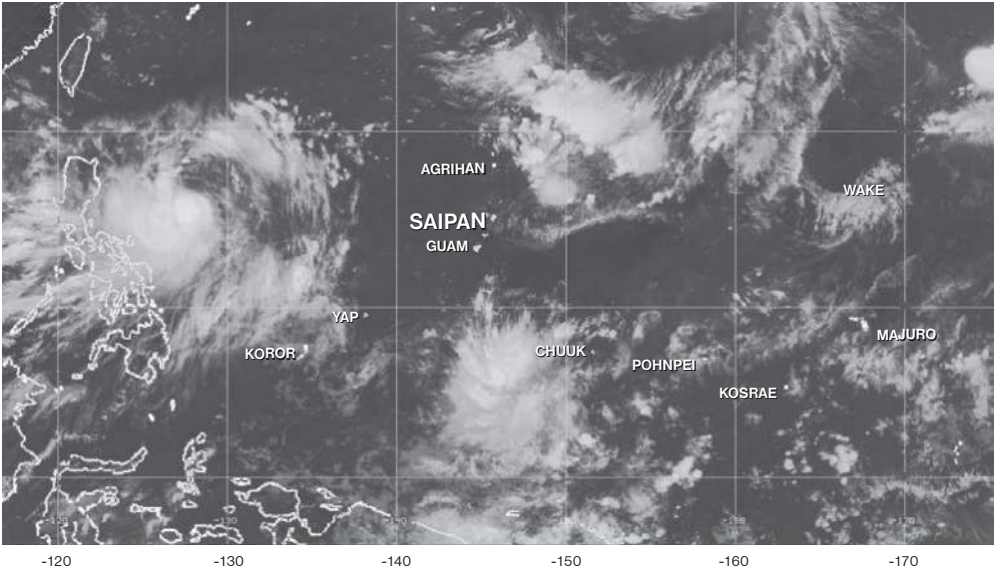


# The Weather

## 5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Mostly sunny with isolated showers. South winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°

## YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



### PICTURE TIME: 6:57 AM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2017

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

The morning satellite and radar imagery showed just a few showers moving across the Marianas. Little will change through the forecast as models keep 700 mb relative humidity below 70 percent and at times below 50 percent. This would tend to keep showers isolated at best. Light southwest winds will prevail for at least the next ten days. Winds from this direction and speed would usually equal afternoon thunderstorms, but because of the limited moisture afternoon thunderstorms will be unlikely. A ridge of high pressure will be over the Marianas through the remainder of the week and keep showers to a minimum. Even though the ridge slips south of 10N this weekend deep layer moisture will remain low. To illustrate the low moisture, rainfall the next ten days will be similar to the dry season as total rainfall will be less than one inch.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA ▲ ▼ °F		
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°
Palau	Showers	85° / 77°
Yap	Mostly Sunny	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Showers	85° / 78°
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 78°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE ▲ ▼ °F		
Auckland	Showers	55° / 43°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	84° / 70°
Hong Kong	Showers	90° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°
London	Showers	66° / 55°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	84° / 67°
Manila	Rain	84° / 79°
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 48°
Miami	Sunny	88° / 81°
New York	Mostly Cloudy	80° / 73°
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	93° / 81°
Paris	Showers	73° / 57°
Busan	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	88° / 68°
Salem	Partly Cloudy	93° / 75°
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°
Seoul	Rain	86° / 75°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	90° / 75°
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	89° / 76°



### NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.net](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.net)

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY FEET		
4:46 AM	LOW TIDE	0.84
9:48 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.82
4:48 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.06
11:22 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.96

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Friday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Saturday	5:58 AM	6:48 PM
Sunday	5:58 AM	6:47 PM
Monday	5:59 AM	6:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	9:22 AM	9:56 PM	-
Friday	10:15 AM	10:37 PM	-
Saturday	11:05 AM	11:18 PM	-
Sunday	11:55 AM	11:58 PM	-
Monday	12:43 PM	-	-

#### NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). Website:[www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 22, 2017									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)					GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN				
UA63944:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily	
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily		UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily	
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota		UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6		UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota	
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily		UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily	
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily		UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)					GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)				
UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6	
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)					ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN				
UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7		UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	2, 3, 4		7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily	
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1		ZE581	10:10am	3:55pm	Daily	
TW308	2:35am	6:20am	6, 7		TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1, 2, 3	
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7	
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily		TW307	8:05pm	1:35am+1	5, 6	
LJ652	4:45am	8:35am	Daily		OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily		7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily	
ZE582	4:45pm	8:35pm	Daily		LJ651	10:00pm	3:30am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 7		7C3452	9:00pm	2:10am+1	4	
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7		OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6	
7C3451	4:00am	7:05am	4, 5		7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	3, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
3U8648	5:20am	8:00am	1, 4, 5, 7		3U8647	10:20pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6		3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)					HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN				
JD396	7:00am	10:25am	1		JD395	8:10am	3:30pm	4	
JD396	4:50pm	8:15pm	4		JD395	10:05pm	5:30am+1	7	
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)					BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN				
MU764	1:30am	6:35am	1, 3, 5, 7		MU763	4:25pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6, 7	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL297	4:15pm	7:00pm	Daily		DL298	10:20am	2:50pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN		UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM	
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:00am	1, 2, 4, 6 via GUM		PR1571	9:20pm	3:40am+1	3, 7	
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	3, 5, 7 via GUM		UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM	
PR1572	4:40am	6:45am	1, 4		UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM		PR110/UA6395	10:55pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM	
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM		UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM	
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:40pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR						
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM						
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM						
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:40pm	2 via GUM-ROR						
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)					HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN				
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4		OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN		OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		U042	4:50pm	12:05am+1	2, 6	
U043	4:40am	8:10am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7		HX076	5:20pm	12:30am+1	3, 7	
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM		U042	6:05pm	1:10am+1	1	
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM		U042	6:10pm	1:00am+1	3	
					U042	6:10pm	1:10am+1	4	
					U042	6:40pm	2:00am+1	7	
					UA116/6395	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM	
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, LJ Jin Air, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, ZE Eastar Jet, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									
STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.									
SAIPAN TO ROTA					1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily	
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily		1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily	
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily		1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily	
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily		1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily	
ROTA TO SAIPAN					1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily	
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily		1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily	
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily		1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily	
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily		TINIAN TO SAIPAN				
ROTA TO GUAM					FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily		2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	
GUAM TO ROTA					2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily		2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	
SAIPAN TO TINIAN					2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily	
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY		2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily		2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily		2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily		2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	
					2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily	
					2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily	



# Business

## Senate opens 'Obamacare' debate at last

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Prodded by President Donald Trump, a bitterly divided Senate voted, at last, Tuesday to move forward with the Republicans' long-promised legislation to repeal and replace "Obamacare." There was high drama as Sen. John McCain returned to the Capitol for the first time after being diagnosed with brain cancer to cast a decisive "yes" vote.

The final tally was 51-50, with Vice President Mike Pence breaking the tie after two Republicans joined all 48 Democrats in voting "no."

With all senators in their seats and protesters agitating outside and briefly inside the chamber, the vote was held open at length before McCain, 80, entered the chamber. Greeted by cheers, he smiled and dispensed hugs—but with the scars from recent surgery starkly visible on the left side of his face.

Despite voting "yes," he took a lecturing tone afterward and hardly saw success assured for the legislation after weeks of misfires, even after Tuesday's victory for Trump and Republican leader Mitch McConnell.

"If this process ends in failure, which seems likely, then let's return to regular order," McCain said as he chided Republican leaders for devising the legislation in secret along with the administration and "springing it on skeptical members."

"Stop listening to the bombastic loudmouths on the radio, TV and internet. To hell with them!" McCain said, raising his voice as he urged senators to reach for the comity of earlier times.

When the Senate voted Tuesday evening on the bill's initial amendment, it underscored how hard it will be for the chamber's divided Republicans to pass a sweeping re-

placement of Obama's law.

By 57-43—including nine GOP defectors—it blocked a wide-ranging proposal by McConnell to erase and replace much of the statute. It included language by Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, letting insurers sell cut-rate policies with skimpy coverage, plus an additional \$100 billion to help states ease out-of-pocket costs for people losing Medicaid sought by Midwestern moderates including Rob Portman, R-Ohio.

But at the White House earlier after senators voted to consider the bill, Trump wasted no time in declaring a win and slamming the Democrats anew.

"I'm very happy to announce that, with zero of the Democrats' votes, the motion to proceed on health care has just passed. And now we move forward toward truly great health care for the American people," Trump said. "This was a big step. I want to thank Senator John McCain—very brave man."

Trump continued to celebrate the vote at a rally in Youngstown, Ohio that doubled as a victory lap.

"We're now one step closer to liberating our citizens from this Obamacare nightmare and delivering great health care for the American people" he said.

At its most basic, the Republican legislation is aimed at undoing Obamacare's unpopular mandates for most people to carry insurance and businesses to offer it. The GOP would repeal Obamacare taxes and unwind an expansion of the Medicaid program for the poor, the disabled and nursing home residents. The result would be 20 million to 30 million people losing insurance over a decade, depending on the version of the bill.

The GOP legislation has polled abysmally, while Obamacare itself has grown

steadily more popular. Yet most Republicans argue that failing to deliver on their promises to pass repeal-and-replace legislation would be worse than passing an unpopular bill, because it would expose the GOP as unable to govern despite controlling majorities in the House, Senate and White House.

Tuesday's vote amounted to a procedural hurdle for legislation whose final form is impossible to predict under the Senate's byzantine amendment process, which will unfold over the next several days.

Indeed senators had no clear idea of what they would ultimately be voting on, and in an indication of the uncertainty ahead, McConnell said the Senate will "let the voting take us where it will." The expectation is that he will bring up a series of amendments, including a straight-up repeal and fuller replacement legislation, to see where consensus may lie.

Yet after seven years of empty promises, and weeks of hand-wringing and false starts on Capitol Hill, it was the Senate's first concrete step toward delivering on innumerable pledges to undo former President Barack Obama's law. It came after several near-death experiences for earlier versions of the legislation, and only after Trump summoned senators to the White House last week to order them to try again after McConnell had essentially conceded defeat.

"The people who sent us here expect us to begin this debate, to have the courage to tackle the tough issues," McConnell said ahead of the vote.

Democrats stood implacably opposed, and in an unusual maneuver they sat in their seats refusing to vote until it was clear Republicans would be able to reach the 50-vote margin needed to get them over the top with Pence's help.

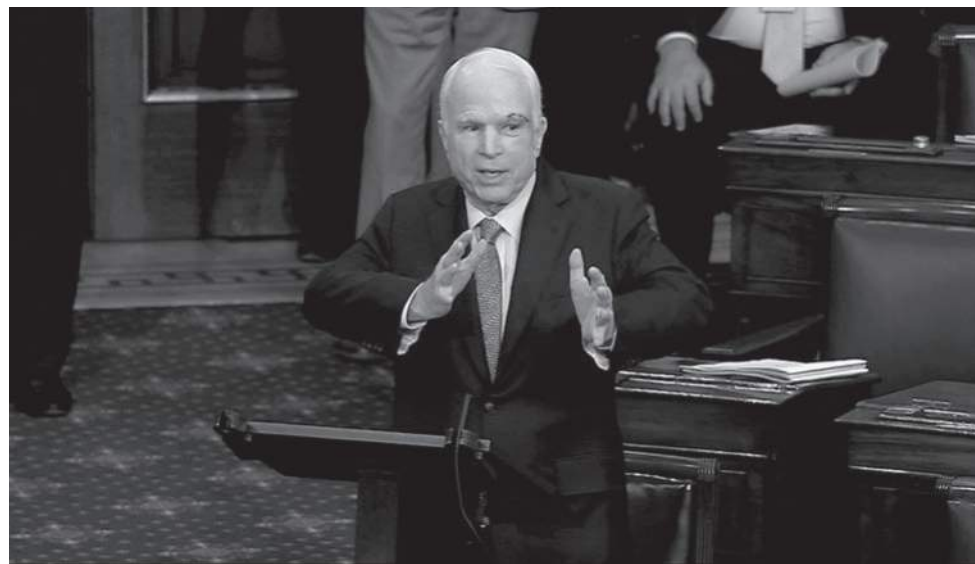
County Health Department.

### New York City's transit agency unveils \$836M subway plan

**NEW YORK (AP)**—The head of New York City's transit agency on Tuesday unveiled an \$836 million plan to stabilize the beleaguered subway system, and promised that riders would see progress within the next year. Metropolitan Transportation Authority Chairman Joseph Lhota said it was the first phase of a larger subway action plan to modernize the system. "New Yorkers are rightfully frustrated with the current state of the subways, and their demands for better service have been heard," Lhota said. The first phase will focus on signal and track maintenance, car reliability, system safety and cleanliness, customer communications and management.

# Nation

## McCain returns, makes impassioned speech



AP

In this image from video provided by Senate Television, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. speaks the floor of the Senate on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, July 25, 2017.

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—The maverick stood with his party on Tuesday, casting a crucial vote in the Republican drive to repeal "Obamacare." But then, like an angry prophet, Sen. John McCain condemned the tribal politics besetting the nation.

Confronting an aggressive brain cancer, the 80-year-old Arizonan served notice he would not vote for the GOP legislation as it stands now. McCain's impassioned speech held the rapt attention of his colleagues in the Senate chamber.

"Stop listening to the bombastic loudmouths on the radio, television and the internet," he intoned. "To hell with them! They don't want anything done for the public good. Our incapacity is their livelihood."

A few minutes earlier,

McCain dramatically entered the chamber for the pivotal vote, his first since surgery and his cancer diagnosis in Arizona. Unified for once, Republicans and Democrats applauded and whooped for the six-term lawmaker. "Aye," he said, thumbs up with both hands, for the GOP vote to move ahead on debate.

After he voted, McCain stood at his seat and accepted hugs and handshakes from all senators in both parties, drawing laughter from the spectators' gallery when he and Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders exchanged an awkward embrace.

McCain then spoke his mind. His face was pale, cheek bruised, a red scar and stitches above his left eye where doctors had removed a blood clot. But his voice

was strong. He offered a bit of self-deprecation, saying he was "looking a little worse for wear."

He bemoaned the lack of legislative accomplishments in the current Congress and the GOP's secretive process in working on repealing Obamacare. He issued a plea for Democrats and Republicans to work together.

Obama and the Democrats shouldn't have pushed the Affordable Care Act through on party-line votes when they controlled Washington back in 2010, McCain said, "and we shouldn't do the same with ours. Why don't we try the old way of legislating in the Senate?"

That would involve committee hearings and testimony from experts and interested parties, an incremental process that could take months.

## US rep: Truck passed checkpoint 2 hours before discovery

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)**—Investigators believe a truck driver accused in the deaths of 10 people found inside a packed, sweltering tractor-trailer is just one member of a larger organization involved in human smuggling that they are looking to identify and dismantle, a U.S. immigration official said.

Some of the 29 identified survivors have told authorities they hired smugglers who brought them across the U.S. border, loaded some of them onto trucks that took them to the tractor-trailer, and marked them with different colored tape to identify them to various smugglers who would be picking them up after the tractor-trailer reached its destination.

"We're certainly not stopping at looking at the driver. We're trying to investigate

and identify the different cogs, the stash houses, the other members, where the money came from," Shane Folden, special agent in charge of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations office in San Antonio, told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The driver, James Matthew Bradley Jr., 60, of Clearwater, Florida, is facing charges of illegally transporting immigrants for financial gain, resulting in death. Bradley could face the death penalty. Authorities allege he drove a trailer full of immigrants from South Texas that was discovered in the parking lot of a Walmart in San Antonio early Sunday morning.

Folden said charging Bradley is just the first step

in the case as investigators work to find others involved in the scheme, including those responsible for facilitating money transfers and bringing the immigrants across the border.

"The ultimate goal is to dismantle the complete organization. You don't get there by only focusing on one aspect. You have to look at potential targets and potential related locations, both north and south," he said.

U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar from Texas said he was informed by law enforcement the tractor-trailer had cleared a Border Patrol checkpoint 29 miles north of the border on Interstate 35 near Laredo. Cuellar said he didn't know whether the immigrants were loaded into the truck before or after it crossed the checkpoint.



### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Chipotle says employee worked while ill at Va. location

**DENVER (AP)**—Chipotle says it believes an employee was working while sick at a Virginia location where dozens of customers reported becoming ill earlier this month with what health officials think was norovirus. After the company reported improved sales for the second quarter Tuesday, CEO Steve Eells said that a company investigation into the illnesses found that its leadership at the store didn't adhere to its protocols. "We believe someone was working while sick," Eells said, without giving specifics. Given "how quickly symptoms develop with norovirus and the large number of folks involved, we will likely not be able to determine whether a patron or employee was the first to introduce the virus to the facility," said David Goodfriend, director of the Loudoun





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# Asia

## Rights groups ask Duterte to retract threat to bomb schools



In this Monday, July 24, 2017, photo, young Indigenous People known as Lumads form the words "Save Lumad schools" as they join a march of thousands of protesters to coincide with the state of the nation address of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in Quezon city, northeast of Manila, Philippines.

AP

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Human rights groups asked the Philippine president Wednesday to retract a threat to order airstrikes against tribal schools he accused of teaching students to become communist rebels, warning such an attack would constitute a war crime.

U.S.-based Human Rights Watch said international humanitarian law "prohibits attacks on schools and other civilian structures unless they are being used for military purposes," adding that deliberate attacks on civilians, including students and teachers, "is also a war crime."

Left-wing Rep. Emmi de Jesus of the Gabriela Wom-

en's Party asked Duterte to retract the threat, saying government troops may use it as a pretext to attack indigenous, or Lumad, schools and communities in the country's south which have come under threat from pro-military militias in recent years.

Angered by recent communist rebel attacks on government forces, including a road gunbattle last week that wounded five members of his elite presidential guards, Duterte has called off peace talks with the Maoist guerrillas and threatened their perceived sympathizers.

In a televised news conference he called late Monday

shortly after delivering his annual state of the nation address, Duterte condemned the insurgents for destroying bridges and torching schools in the countryside but said the insurgents were sparing Lumad schools which he alleged were operating under rebel control without government permits.

"Get out of there, I'm telling the Lumads now. I'll have those bombed, including your structures," the president said. "I will use the armed forces, the Philippine air force. I'll really have those bombed ... because you are operating illegally and you are teaching the children to rebel against government."

families, was not immediately known. Rescuers have been digging through the rubble in search of more victims since Tuesday morning and will continue during the night, police officer Lal Bhandari said. The injured have been taken to hospitals, he said.

### Afghan official says roadside mine kills district governor

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)**—An Afghan official says a roadside mine killed the governor of Shebako District in western Farah province along with his son and five bodyguards. The provincial governor's spokesman, Mohammad Naser Mehri, blamed Tuesday's powerful explosion on the Taliban, although no one immediately claimed responsibility. Mehri said the district governor, Abdul Rahim Haydari, was returning home when the mine destroyed the vehicle in which he was a passenger, killing everyone inside the vehicle. The Taliban have stepped up their attacks in the north and west of the country in recent days taking control of two separate districts, one in Faryab province and one in Ghor province and temporarily closing a key highway linking the capital Kabul to northern Afghanistan.

# World

## Thousands of Muslims protest over contested Jerusalem shrine

**JERUSALEM (AP)**—Thousands of Palestinian Muslims prayed in the streets near Jerusalem's most contested holy site Tuesday, heeding a call by clergy to not enter the shrine despite Israel's seeming capitulation when it removed metal detectors it installed there a week earlier.

Muslim leaders said they would only call off the protests once they made sure Israel had restored the situation to what it was before the latest crisis.

Some Muslim officials alleged that Israel used the absence of Muslim clerics from the walled compound in the past week of protests to install new security cameras.

The continued standoff highlighted the deep distrust between Israel and the Palestinians when it comes to the shrine—the third-holiest in Islam and the most sacred in Judaism.

The 37-acre esplanade, known to Muslims as the Noble Sanctuary and to Jews as the Temple Mount, has been a lightning rod for rival religious and national narratives of the two sides. It has triggered major confrontations in the past.

Israel seemed eager to put the crisis behind it and restore calm after a week of prayer protests, street clashes and several incidents of deadly violence.

Israel's Prime Minister

Benjamin Netanyahu and his government also faced a growing backlash at home for what critics said was hasty decision-making and embarrassing policy zigzags.

In a face-saving compromise, Israel's security Cabinet announced that in place of the metal detectors, it would employ nonintrusive "advanced technologies," reportedly smart cameras that can detect hidden objects. The new security system is to be set up in the next six months at a cost of \$28 million.

Meanwhile, Palestinian politicians and Muslim clerics demanded that Israel restore the situation at the shrine in Jerusalem's Old City to what it was before July 14. On that day, three Arab gunmen opened fire from the shrine at Israeli police guards, killing two before being shot dead.

In response, Israel closed the shrine for two days for weapons searches and installed the metal detectors. The decision quickly triggered Muslim protests amid allegations that Israel was trying to expand its control at the site under the guise of security—a claim Israel has denied.

On Tuesday, hours after Israel removed the metal detectors, Muslim leaders said a technical committee would check the area in and around the compound carefully to see if Israel had made any unilateral changes during the

time the shrine stood empty.

Protests would continue until the check was completed, they said.

By Tuesday evening, thousands of worshippers prayed at the Old City's Lion's Gate, one of the main flashpoints in recent days. They knelt on prayer rugs arranged in neat rows on the asphalt as Israeli riot police lined up nearby.

After the prayers, many in the crowd chanted, "Oh God, oh God, oh God," as they raised their right index finger to the sky in a sign of religious fervor.

Khalil Abu Arafah, a 67-year-old retiree, said he and the others would follow the lead of the Muslim clergy. "We will not go. We will keep praying here," he said, alleging Israel hadn't removed all of the new security measures.

Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said some cameras remained "as part of the security measures to prevent terror attacks" in and around the Old City.

The Israeli daily Haaretz said the security Cabinet had decided to remove the metal detectors but leave in place the newly installed cameras.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said security coordination between his forces and Israeli troops in the West Bank would remain on hold until Israel has restored the situation at the shrine to what it was before July 14.

## Kurdish official says US role essential in post-IS Syria

**KOBANI, Syria (AP)**—The Kurdish-led effort to secure Raqqa once it is liberated from the Islamic State group will require long-term U.S. political and financial support for the battered city's governance and reconstruction, a senior Syrian Kurdish official said Tuesday.

In an interview with The Associated Press in the Kurdish-administered town of Kobani, Ilham Ahmed said the U.S. role in the fight against IS must not end with the liberation of the Raqqa but should continue as a guarantor of stability until a political future for the war-torn country is charted.

Ahmed is the co-president of the Syrian Democratic Council, the political wing of the U.S.-backed Kurdish-led force currently fighting to liberate the Islamic State group's self-proclaimed capital of Raqqa from the militants. She is also a senior

politician in the increasingly powerful Kurdish group that declared areas of self-administration in northern Syria last year, sparking the ire of Turkey, another U.S. ally.

Ankara considers the People's Protection Units, or YPG, the Kurdish militia that forms the backbone of the Syrian Democratic Forces, as linked to the outlawed Kurdish insurgency in Turkey and fears their expansion along its borders.

"If the Americans want to protect the security of these areas and protect their (own) country from terrorism, they must continue until a democratic system is built in Syria," Ahmed said. She said the U.S. should recognize that the crisis in Syria is not only about defeating IS but also about building a democratic system that protects against radical groups taking over again.

Kurdish forces have gained confidence in light of open

U.S. support to their forces, particularly as the battle for Raqqa took off. Despite Turkish protests, the U.S. sent new weapons and vehicles to the YPG to enable it in the fight against IS.

The U.S. has up to 1,000 troops in Syria mostly involved in training and advising the local forces against IS. The U.S. administration has made clear it does not intend to be engaged in post-liberation governance or rebuilding. U.S. officials say once Raqqa is liberated, the SDF will hand over local governance to the Raqqa Civilian Council, a local group of primarily Arab locals who will govern and administer essential services.

"Raqqa has been subjected to destruction of its infrastructure," said Ahmed, highlighting the beating the city has taken in the effort to retake it from IS.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Heavy monsoon rains lash western India, killing 16

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—At least 16 people have been killed this week in heavy monsoon rains that have lashed western India, including the desert state of Rajasthan, with more than 24,000 villagers evacuated to higher ground, officials said Tuesday. Hundreds of rescuers using motor boats saved 789 people, including some pregnant women, from being swept away by the swirling floodwaters in six districts in Gujarat state, said Ranvijay Singh, a government official. The rescuers found six bodies in flooded villages on Monday and Tuesday, raising the death toll in Gujarat to 70 since the start of the monsoon season, which runs from June through September.

#### 5-story building collapses in India, killing at least 12

**MUMBAI, India (AP)**—A five-story building came crashing down Tuesday in Mumbai, India's financial and entertainment capital, killing at least 12 people and injuring 12 others, police said. Another dozen people were feared trapped under the rubble. The cause of the collapse of the building, which housed 15



# Focus

By **PETER PRENGAMAN, MITCH WEISS, and HOLBROOK MOHR**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**SAO JOAQUIM DE BICAS, Brazil (AP)**—At the Word of Faith Fellowship churches in the Brazilian cities of Sao Joaquim de Bicas and Franco da Rocha, the signs of broken families are everywhere: parents separated from their children, siblings who no longer speak, grandparents who wonder if they will ever know their grandchildren.

Over the course of two decades, the U.S.-based mother church took command of both congregations in Brazil, applying a strict interpretation of the Bible and enforcing it through rigorous controls and physical punishment, The Associated Press has found.

Many of the more than three dozen former members interviewed by the AP in Brazil said they live in perpetual fear of retribution. Some have sought psychological help. Others ask themselves how they put up with the abuse for so long.

Former member Juliana Oliveira remembers when life was normal in the Sao Joaquim de Bicas church, but that was years ago, before the Americans came from Spindale, North Carolina. Before the Brazilian traditions were stripped away, she said, and the screaming and beatings began.

“When you are in a cult, you don’t know you are in a cult because little by little it all becomes ‘normal,’” said Oliveira, 34. “It’s like a frog in a pot of water. By the time it’s boiling, he can’t jump out.”

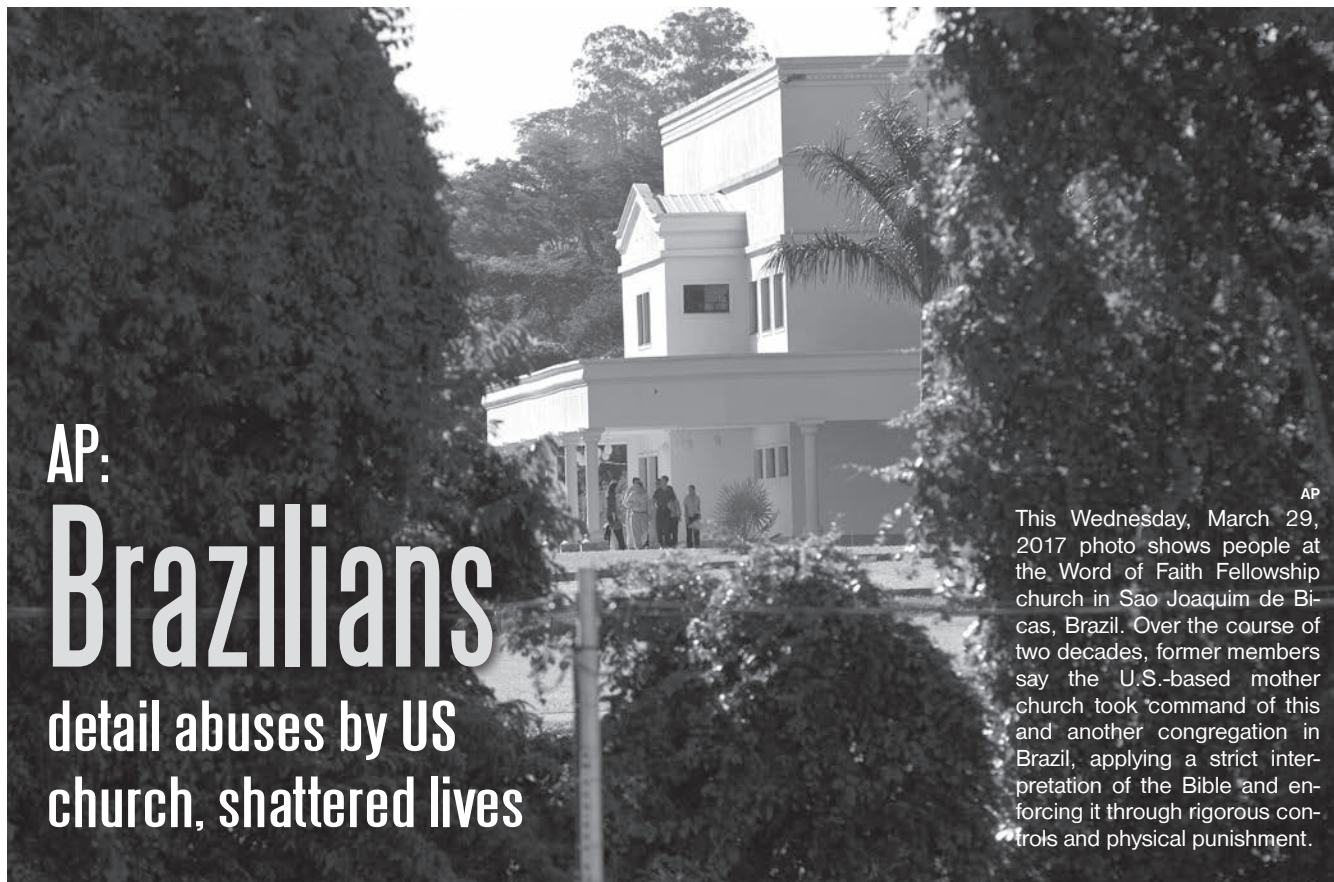
The examination of Word of Faith Fellowship’s spread into Latin America’s largest country is part of the AP’s lengthy ongoing investigation into the evangelical church, founded in 1979 by Jane Whaley, a former math teacher, and her husband, Sam.

Based on exclusive interviews with dozens of former members, the AP reported in February that congregants in the U.S. were regularly beaten, punched and choked to “purify” sinners by expelling devils.

The AP also has detailed how Word of Faith Fellowship funneled a steady flow of young Brazilian members to the United States on tourist and student visas and forced them to work both at the church and companies owned by sect leaders.

Neither Whaley nor the pastors at both Word of Faith Fellowship branches in Brazil responded to requests for comment.

The church has nearly 2,000 members in Brazil and Ghana and its affiliations in Sweden, Scotland and other countries, in addition to 750 congregants in Spindale.



## AP: Brazilians detail abuses by US church, shattered lives

AP  
This Wednesday, March 29, 2017 photo shows people at the Word of Faith Fellowship church in Sao Joaquim de Bicas, Brazil. Over the course of two decades, former members say the U.S.-based mother church took command of this and another congregation in Brazil, applying a strict interpretation of the Bible and enforcing it through rigorous controls and physical punishment.

In Brazil, the takeover of the two churches was a slow evolution that culminated in drastic rules dictating almost every aspect of congregants’ lives, former members said.

Many of the edicts echoed Whaley’s mandates in North Carolina, such as a ban on wearing jeans and children talking to members of the opposite sex without approval.

In Franco da Rocha, former members said Whaley prohibited soccer as Brazil was getting ready to host the 2014 World Cup because she felt the church’s young males were focused on the event at the expense of God.

“We just dealt with a major ‘soccer devil’ down in Brazil two weeks ago,” Whaley told the Spindale congregation in a sermon transmitted to branches in Brazil and Ghana that was viewed by the AP.

When Oliveira was a teenager in the late 1990s, the evangelical school she attended was “strict but normal,” she said. The Bible was the guiding principle at Ministerio Verbo Vivo (Live Word), but general subjects were taught just like at any Brazilian school.

By the time she returned from college to teach at the school, life at Verbo Vivo was barely recognizable, said Oliveira, who broke with Word of Faith in 2009.

Schoolbooks reviewed by the AP show heavy redactions. Instead of human sexuality, for example, the life cycle is taught via plant reproduction.

“The influence of American pastors was getting stronger and stronger in the school and church,” Oliveira said, wiping away tears during an interview at her home in nearby Betim.

“They stopped emphasizing the teaching of Portuguese, geography, mathematics—the normal

things. It turned into mostly Bible study and a lot of abuse.”

Students deemed as “rebellious” were isolated from others during the school day, made to read the Bible or shouted at for hours to “expunge devils,” according to many former students and their parents.

When state inspectors visited, the long palm tree-lined driveway from the gate to the school provided plenty of time for school employees to pull out regular books and make things look “normal,” Oliveira said.

Over the years, former members say the Brazilian churches introduced physical assaults and “blasting”—a Word of Faith Fellowship practice where ministers and congregants surround members and scream in their faces for hours to drive out demons.

Flavio Correa said his oldest son was slapped so many times during a blasting session by pastors at the Franco da Rocha church that he suffered several cuts on his face.

“At the time I thought it was absurd, exaggerated,” said Correa, 52, who left the church last year after 23 years. “But I confided in them and you start to think it is good for the person. Today, I just think it’s stupid.”

### THE TENTACLES INTO BRAZIL

Word of Faith Fellowship’s reach into Brazil began with John Martin, an American missionary who arrived in the late 1970s, married a local woman and served as pastor at a Baptist church near Belo Horizonte, one of the country’s largest cities.

Former members say Martin met Sam Whaley on an airplane in 1986, sparking a relationship that led both Whaleys and other ministers from Spindale to begin visiting Martin’s church.

Martin founded Verbo Vivo in Belo Horizonte in 1987 and, gradually, year by year, the Americans began to gain control of the parish, former members said.

In 2005, Martin moved his church to Sao Joaquim de Bicas, a small city about 45 minutes away. That same year, dozens of church families moved to a large plot of land in Betim, a small adjacent city.

Though land was cheaper outside Belo Horizonte, former members cite another motivation: Isolating the flock from the outside world.

Children attended school on church land—property ringed by an 8-foot-high fence topped with barbed wire—and returned home to a neighborhood with a manned gate and its own 8-foot-high fence.

Adult members had little contact with the outside world, going to work and returning straight home to the community. Some ex-members continue to live there, such as Juliana Oliveira’s family. Current congregants and former ones pass each other daily without speaking.

About 360 miles (580 kilometers) south, a similar transformation took place. Former members say evangelical pastors Solange Granieri and Juarez De Souza Oliveira, a married couple, met the Whaleys at a religious conference in Sao Paulo in the mid-1980s.

In 1988, De Souza Oliveira opened Ministerio Evangelico Comunidade Rhema, or Rhema Community Evangelical Ministry, which includes a church and a school, in the Sao Paulo suburb of Franco da Rocha.

Just as in Sao Joaquim de Bicas, congregants in the second branch were encouraged to buy land in a remote area outside the city, former mem-

bers said. In both places, there was an emphasis on building close-knit communities modeled after the original sect in North Carolina.

In 2009, almost two decades after the founding of Verbo Vivo, the increasingly harsh treatment and strict rules imposed by the Americans led to a revolt by dozens of congregants in Sao Joaquim de Bicas.

Two Brazilian pastors left, contending in television interviews that Martin and the other American ministers who periodically visited were “brainwashing” and controlling congregants at Whaley’s behest.

Their departures created a rupture so great—and led to so many complaints—that the human rights committee in the Minas Gerais state legislature held hearings.

Two dozen ex-members testified about abuses, from forced isolation to being shaken and hit during services and at the church school. Former students recounted being spanked with wooden spoons and yelled at for extended periods in front of their classmates.

Andre Gustavo Morais de Oliveira, who is no relation to the other Oliveiras, testified he had been taken to Spindale four times as a teenager, starting at age 13. He said he was not put to work during the first trip, which lasted 27 days, instead spending his days praying and learning the church’s doctrine.

“The following trips, I was obligated to work as a painter, a gardener, everything for the sake of the sect,” he testified. When contacted by the AP, Morais de Oliveira stood by his testimony but declined to be interviewed.

Parents also testified that their children were sent to the U.S. and indoctrinated to the point that they turned against

their families.

Eduardo Gonzaga, one of the pastors who left the church, said his 19-year-old son and 22-year-old daughter had broken off contact after traveling to North Carolina.

“Father, don’t try to speak to us anymore,” Gonzaga recounted them telling him during a phone call from Spindale on Father’s Day. All future communication must go through church leaders in Spindale, he was told.

Gonzaga testified that he tried repeatedly to reach his children, even traveling to Spindale. Since they are adults, he said, authorities could not intervene.

The hearings in Brazil created a stir, but ultimately no one was charged. Many of the abuse allegations came down to the word of former members against church officials, similar to the way investigations at the North Carolina parent church have stalled over the decades.

Martin, the lead pastor, denied the allegations and called the disciplinary rules “guidelines and not prohibitions,” according to news media reports at the time. He declined to offer fresh comment to the AP.

The turmoil did lead to at least one change: Former members said there was a sharp drop in Martin’s congregants, from about 600 to 300.

While the Franco da Rocha branch did not suffer the same internal strife, congregants who left in recent years estimate that the number of members there dropped from 700 a decade ago to 250 now.

Naara Abe, a member of the Franco da Rocha church for a quarter-century, said the dramatic changes in the church made her want to leave a decade ago but that she mustered the courage only last year.

The final straw, she said, was a conversation with Jane Whaley about her teenage son, who liked a fellow congregant but was not allowed to talk to her because the sexes are strictly separated. If she was a really good mother, Abe said Whaley told her, she would crack down on her son.

Today, Abe, 51, feels full of regret—from the birthdays not celebrated, because the church forbids it, to the tremendous strain on her marriage. Her husband, also a long-time member, had doubts about the church and argued for years that they should leave, she said.

“Little by little, the church makes you do more things, subtle things, that you don’t even notice,” said Abe, citing cutting off contact with friends who are not members.

“Then you are like a caged animal that no longer knows how to live outside,” she said.



# Environment



TNS

Seaside homes in Longport, N.J. are hammered by the surf, on Oct. 25, 2005. As glaciers melt amid the heat of a warming planet, scientists predict coastal communities could eventually experience flooding from higher tides.

**SAN DIEGO—**As glaciers melt amid the heat of a warming planet, scientists predict that coastal communities in the United States could eventually experience flooding from higher tides.

Conservative estimates range from an increase of about one to four feet in sea-level rise by the end of the century. Experts also warn that people should be prepared for unlikely but extreme scenarios of up to eight feet in sea-level rise, which would cause severe and chronic flooding in hundreds of coastal cities.

Grappling with this problem would be expensive for local governments. Anticipating the costly possibility, the city of Imperial Beach and the counties of Marin and San Mateo last week filed potentially groundbreaking lawsuits to push large oil and coal companies to foot the bill.

According to scientists, sea-level rise is underway in some seaside neighborhoods and comes on top of the potential for large storms to intensify because of climate change. Cities along the East Coast — such as Miami, Boston and Charleston, N.C. — face the greatest risk, but flooding is also projected to harm much of San Diego County's coastline in the coming decades.

The major questions currently are: How much flooding will vulnerable cities experience, and how fast?

The answers are difficult to determine because it depends largely

## SEA LEVEL RISE could bring costly flooding in coastal communities within decades

By JOSHUA EMERSON SMITH  
THE SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

on future global efforts to curb greenhouse-gas emissions, and there are widely varying predictions about glacial melt in Greenland and Antarctica. Mountain glaciers contain enough ice to increase seas by 1.5 feet, while Greenland and Antarctica have sheets of frozen water that, if melted, would boost ocean levels by 24 feet and 187 feet, respectively.

Recent scientific expeditions have found that those frozen land masses are losing ice faster than previously thought.

"Those are the places where a lot of research is being done," said Chris Zervas, a scientist working on seal-level rise for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "And they're finding more and more possibilities of areas that weren't believed to be affected in the next century too much by melting and warming

temperatures, but are now showing the presence of warm ocean temperatures, warm air temperatures and increased changing of conditions."

Seaside cities are starting to prepare for the worst, conducting vulnerability studies and considering a suite of options. Among other measures, they can try to armor their coastlines using seawalls, move critical infrastructure and even retreat farther inland. Elected officials could update zoning rules to discourage future building along the water.

According to a new report by the Union of Concerned Scientists, the number of U.S. communities that would flood more than twice a month could double to 170 by the year 2035 if sea levels increase by four to six feet by the end of this century.

"People need to know how much time they have and be adjusting their portfolio of options accordingly,"

said Kristina Dahl at the scientific union, who co-wrote the report. "In communities where they maybe only have 20 years before this type of flooding sets in, they need to be thinking in bold new ways."

She added: "Many California communities have a longer time frame before they would be chronically inundated. So there can be slower-moving strategies that focus on halting or phasing out policies that encourage development in at-risk areas."

If the sea rises by six feet by the end of the century, more than 600 communities would experience chronic inundation, including more than 50 urban centers from Oakland to Miami to boroughs of New York City, according to the new study.

Under this scenario, damages could significantly start to really rack up. The real estate service Zillow predicts that if tides rise by six feet, near-

ly 300 cities in the nation would lose at least half of their housing stock.

It also estimates that in such a situation, about 1.9 million homes could be destroyed, with combined losses of roughly \$882 billion. Florida stands to lose the most with nearly 1 million homes wiped out. California, New York and Massachusetts also stand to suffer major financial harm from the loss of expensive properties.

But is six feet of sea-level rise likely?

In the past century, the sea level rose roughly seven inches on average. Because of tides and weather patterns, the levels are not constant throughout the planet.

Scientists believe the oceans will likely continue to rise at least by that much through 2100, but could increase by as much as eight feet on average globally.

Still, while scientists have upped their predictions for potential sea-level rise in recent years, conservative estimates fall far short of the six-foot mark.

A report in April from professors at UC San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography and UC Santa Cruz found that after mid-century, sea-level rise is increasingly dependent on efforts to curb greenhouse gases.

If the fight against climate change proves extremely successful, there's a nearly 67 percent chance that sea-level rise could be contained to between one and 2.4 feet through 2100, according to that April analysis. If mitigation efforts fall apart, the report said, the world would most likely see increases of 1.6 to 3.4 feet.



# Life & Style

## Game of Thrones: Shattering the dragonglass ceiling



This image provided by HBO shows Sophie Turner as Sansa, in HBO's "Game of Thrones," during the second episode of Season 7. Westeros is no longer a man's world. During the seventh season of "Game of Thrones," it's women who are calling the shots.

AP

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Westeros is no longer a man's world.

Women are finally calling most of the shots during the seventh season of "Game of Thrones." And if recent economic history is any guide, greater gender equality could help make everyone better off. In a peacetime economy, adding women workers increases the pace of growth. But in wartime, adding women workers is a competitive edge.

From her new perch in Dragonstone, Daenerys has gathered the three royal houses supporting her quest to become queen—with each house led by a fellow woman. Up north, Sansa will rule while her kinsman Jon Snow hits the road. Meanwhile in King's Landing, Cersei is preparing for war with fierce shoulder pads and a giant crossbow in hopes of preserving her crown.

The Associated Press' economics team discusses the rise of women in the latest episode of our audio show, "The Wealth of Westeros."

It's a sharp transformation for the HBO series that oozed testosterone in earlier seasons. Back then women were often the primary victims of men's constant cruelties. But the ascent of women could be a huge positive for Westeros, just as it was for the U.S. economy. Equality among the sexes is about more than social justice—it's often a source of prosperity.

Joining the AP on its latest episode is Neera Tanden, the president and chief executive of the Center for American Progress, a liberal think tank. Tanden is a major Game of Thrones fan and said that women sometimes have gotten "big strides" in economic and political rights during periods of crisis.

But the big question for Daenerys is whether she'll decide to order her three dragons to destroy Cersei—an act seemingly in line with the men who were previously king. Daenerys'

female advisers have encouraged greater aggression, while her male advisers, Tyrion and Varys, pushed for a more restrained approach.

"It was like gender roles were reversed, right?" Tanden said. "The women wanted to come in and use the dragons to slaughter everyone in King's Landing. The male advisers, said, you know, you don't really want to kill all those people."

Economic growth comes from two major factors. The first is how productive people are for each hour worked—one of the big reasons why Westeros' general lack of innovation leaves so many peasants struggling to feed themselves. But the other big factor is how many workers an economy can add, since more people earning daily wages leads to faster growth.

It's the addition of workers where women matter so much. Much of the economic gains from the 1980s and 1990s came because a greater proportion of women started working—and more them started taking jobs that had traditionally been reserved for men. Women's participation rate in the job market peaked around 2001 and has since slipped as the overall growth

rate has slowed.

Jon Snow seems to have taken this principle to heart for battling the supernatural White Walkers.

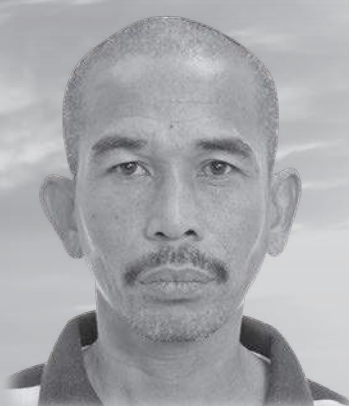
He wants every woman and girl fighting this ghostly brood, not just every man and boy. He also wants women helping to mine for dragonglass, the one obsidian-like material known to kill White Walkers.

## Message of Appreciation



**Danilo Paglinawan**

May 08, 1964 - July 07, 2017



**Ricky Quijano**

December 07, 1969 - July 07, 2017



**Amid Tapon**

October 21, 1975 - July 07, 2017

On behalf of Mr. Steve Qian, President of USA Fanter, We would like to thank:

His Excellency Bishop Ryan Jimenez, Co-celebrants, Choir, all those who assisted in the Eucharistic Celebration in the evening of 7/20/17 and to all those who attended for their presence and prayers.

We would like thank the following for their assistance as we needed to repatriate **Ricky, Danny, Amid** as quickly as possible to their awaiting families in the Philippines.

- Governor Ralph Dlg Torres and the Office of the Governor • Commonwealth Healthcare Center (CHCC)
- Department of Public Safety (DPS) • Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- CNMI Attorney General's Office

The Philippine Consulate:

- Honorable Consul Edgar Tomas Auxilian • Honorary Consul Eli Arago
- Consul Staff Ariel Mariano • Consul Staff Members

Frances Borja from Borja Funeral Home and her staff.

We also would like to recognize and thank Eppie Delotta who coordinated the receiving of the remains in the Philippines and their solemn transition to their families.

The remains of Danny, Ricky and Amid were escorted by all their Co-Workers, in a vehicle procession, from the Borja Funeral Home to the Airport on Friday 7/21/17. The remains arrived in the Philippines the following day on Saturday. Thank you to all those who joined us in the Procession.

In closing, we would also like to thank all who have contributed in kind and monetary donations for their support and assistance to Danny, Ricky and Amid's Families. The following monetary contributions were received by USA Fanter. All proceeds are to be divided equally and remitted to the respective Families:

CHC Chapel Mass on 7/10/17:	\$1,705.00
Memorial Mass on 7/20/17:	\$2,663.00 & Pesos 1,500.00
K-Parts Donation Box:	\$49.00
Rustan's Donation:	\$127.94
<b>Total Collected:</b>	<b>\$4,544.94 &amp; Pesos 1,500.00</b>

LBC will be picking up the personal effects of our Co-Workers on Saturday 7/29/17 and to be delivered to the Philippines.

USA Fanter, on behalf of the Families, have shouldered all costs for repatriation, the purchase of the burial plot and interment costs.

*Again. Thank you & Si Yuus Ma'ase to all and God Bless.*

## TV sitcom bars use of Trump's name

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—President Donald Trump's name is off limits on the upcoming season of Comedy Central's "Broad City."

Series creators Ilana Glazer and Abbi Jacobson said Tuesday that Trump's name will be bleeped each time it's used in an episode—a move typically reserved for expletives.

Glazer told TV critics that talking constantly about Trump and his administra-

tion have made the sound of his name, as she put it, "so gross."

She said she and Jacobson decided Trump has enough air time and they didn't want to share theirs with him.

Glazer and Jacobson star in "Broad City," which returns for its fourth season in September on Comedy Central. The series is about the free-wheeling lives of two New York City women.



# Al Gore on 'Inconvenient Sequel,' Trump, and the environment

NEW YORK (AP)—Al Gore admits he was frustrated upon hearing the news last month that President Trump was pulling out of the Paris Climate Accord, but since then he's become more optimistic.

Gore worried that a U.S. withdrawal from the treaty would compel other nations to opt out of the historical pact for adopting clean energy solutions. But that's not what happened.

"The whole rest of the world has redoubled their commitment. And in this country, the governors and the mayors and

the business leaders have all said, 'We're still in the agreement, and we're gonna fill the gap. We're gonna meet the U.S. commitment, regardless of what Donald Trump does,'" Gore told the Associated Press last week at a special screening for "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power."

It follows the 2006 Oscar-winning documentary, "An Inconvenient Truth," and continues the conversation of finding solutions for the effects of climate change, including an emphasis on renewable energy. Much like the first film, Gore



This image released by Paramount Pictures shows Al Gore in "An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power." AP

is front and center in leading the discussion.

It's been a remarkable second act for Gore since winning the popular vote, but losing the Electoral College in the 2000 presidential election. There's no question that Gore was devastated from the loss, but his stature as an important voice for environmental issues has proven equally successful, as he amassed a Nobel Prize, Academy Award, an Emmy, and a Grammy for his relentless dedication to climate change activism.

"I'm under no illusion that there's any position with as much chance to do good as president of the United States, but I'm very grateful to have found another way to serve the public interests. I'm devoting my life to this and hoping to make a big difference," Gore said.

CNN Legal Analyst Jeffrey Toobin, who also attended the premiere, agrees that Gore "had done pretty well for himself" after the disputed 2000 presidential election.

"Al Gore could have done many things after he was not inaugurated in 2001, but what he did was become the leading global spokesman for perhaps the most important scientific and environmental cause of our lifetime, and he won a Nobel Prize in the bargain. So I don't think anyone could quarrel with how Al Gore has decided to live his life," he said.

A big part of Gore's mission depends on convincing people that climate change is not a hoax. Instead, it's based on science that shows the global mean surface temperature continues to rise, due in part to an increase in greenhouse gases. So while global warming is immune to politics, the topic remains a partisan issue in the United States. That's something the former vice president blames on corporate funding for political campaigns.

"The truth about the climate crisis is still inconvenient for the big carbon polluters, and the politicians that they support with their big campaign

contributions and lobbying activities are scared to cross them. That's the main reason. They've spent a lot of money trying to put out false information about it," Gore said.

Still, he remains confident that the problem can be fixed.

"People are seeing through this now. Two-thirds of the American people want to solve this big time. We are gonna solve it. We just need to move faster on it," Gore said.

Gore feels that change will come from the "grass roots up." That's why he spends a great deal of time training climate activists around the globe.

"We need to get more people involved. That's one of the real purposes of this movie. To tell people what they need to know, to show them that there is hope and there are solutions now, and inspire them to get involved," Gore said.

Davis Guggenheim directed the first film to box office and Oscar glory, bringing climate change into the mainstream. The sequel, directed by Bonni Cohen and Jon Shenk picks up the conversation with more of a battle cry for saving the planet.

Knowing he was stepping into big shoes for this film, Shenk noted the importance of his predecessor's film.

"An Inconvenient Truth" was one of the most successful documentaries in history. Not only did it do fabulously well at the box office, but by almost any measure it put the words global warming and climate crisis on the map for the entire world," Shenk said.

In order to keep the information timely, producers changed the ending from what audiences saw at the Sundance Film Festival to reflect Trump's announcement about withdrawing the United States from the global climate agreement in time for the film's limited release on July 28 and its wide release on Aug. 4.

Gore also said he's recently spoken to Hillary Clinton, and that's "She's gonna be fine."

## Fired Fox News executive proclaims innocence in suit

NEW YORK (AP)—A Fox News Channel executive fired because of a sexual-harassment case has proclaimed his innocence in a lawsuit, saying he was tricked into signing an agreement to keep quiet about the case.

The network announced earlier this year it was paying \$2.5 million to settle an assault claim by former contributor Tamara Holder. But fired executive Francisco Cortes says he had a consensual relation-

ship with Holder.

Cortes says in a lawsuit filed Tuesday he couldn't defend himself at the time of the settlement because he had signed an agreement he believed compelled all sides not to talk. He says he was made a scapegoat in Fox's effort to seem responsive to assault claims.

Cortes is seeking more than \$36 million from Fox parent Twenty-First Century Fox.

Fox calls the lawsuit's allegations frivolous and without merit.

## † Vicente Camacho Terlaje

Born: October 14, 1948 • Died: July 23, 2017

### Predeceased by:

- Mother: †Regina Babauta Camacho Terlaje
- Father: †Jose Terlaje
- Mother-in-law: †Francesca San Nicolas Lizama
- Father-in-law: †Juan Naputi Lizama
- Grandmother: Maria Aquiningoc Terlaje
- Grandmother: †Nicolasa Babauta Camacho
- Grandmother: †Nieves Quitugua Camacho
- Grandfather: †Juan Naugman Camacho
- Grandfather: †Pedro Palacios Camacho
- Sisters: †Maria T. Palacios, †Rita C. Terlaje, †Rosita T. Pangelinan
- Sisters-in-law: †Lydia L. Pangelinan, †Rosa L. Jesus, †Maria A. Lizama, †Dolores A. Lizama, †Maria B. Lizama
- Brothers-in-law: †Jose Sn. Lizama, Pedro Sn. Lizama, Antonio Sn. Lizama, †David A. Jesus, †Sanderson B. Santos
- Granddaughter: †Judyana T. Taimanao

### Survived by:

Wife: **Maria (Kitalang) San Nicolas Lizama Terlaje**

### Children:

- **Frances T.**/Francis S. Taimanao: Jasyleen/Jesse D. Arriola (Janesa), Jollene (Tristan John and Chloe-Mae), John, and Janika;
- **John L.**/Bettina G. Terlaje: Maria, Jared, and Victoria;
- **Gina Ann T. Hazen**/Marvin I. Deleon Guerrero: Reina Lyn (Reniah), Allen Jr., Kingston, and Gino;
- **Vince L.**/Jacoba Merced R. Terlaje: Johnavin Keo
- **Jacody L. Terlaje**

Caregiver: Resurecion Satumira

### Sisters & Spouse:

- †Maria T./Antonio A. Palacios (Connie) & Children
- †Rita C. Terlaje/†Julian Q. Reyes (Ellen) & Children
- Annie T. /Frank Pickelsimer (Frank J. Pickelsimer, III)
- Maria Elena C./Jesus H. Sablan & Children
- Antonia T./Donald Woodworth & Children
- Magdalena T./Mark Hazen & Children
- †Rosita T./Mark S. Pangelinan & Children

### Brother & Spouse:

- Jose T./ Elizabeth Q. Terlaje & Children

### Sisters-in-law & Spouse:

- †Lydia L./Juan O. Pangelinan (Aida) & Children
- †Rosa L. /†David Jesus & Children
- Magdalena L./Daniel Ubedei & Children
- Ana L./Joseph E. Santos & Children
- Remedio L./Joseph B. Babauta & Children

### Brothers-in-law & Spouse:

- †Jose Sn./†Maria A. Lizama & Children
- Manuel Sn./†Dolores A. Lizama & Children
- †Pedro Sn./†Maria B. Lizama & Children
- †Antonio Sn./Martha J. Lizama & Son
- Juan Sn./Florentina A. Lizama & Children
- Jesus Sn./Trinidad A. Lizama & Children

Daily Mass of Intention for the repose of his soul is being celebrated each evening at 6:00pm at San Vicente Church. On Saturday and Sunday, mass will be at 5:30pm. Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, August 01, 2017. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will take place upon arrival of remains.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 am followed by Interment Service where he will laid to a peaceful rest. Please join us in prayers,

*Maira "Kitalang" San Nicolas Lizama Terlaje, Children and Family*



## Portugal picks Lisbon to host 2018 Eurovision Song Contest

**LISBON, Portugal** (AP)—Organizers say next year's Eurovision Song Contest will take place in Lisbon, the capital of Portugal.

Portugal will be hosting the annual event for the first time after Salvador Sobral, the singer representing the country this year, won the 2017 contest.

Sobral clinched Portugal's maiden victory with a gentle, soulful ballad and a subdued,

no-frills performance that broke with the contest's tradition of glitter and gaudiness.

Portuguese public television Radiotevisao Portuguesa, the host broadcaster, announced Tuesday that the 2018 edition will take place at a riverside entertainment complex in Lisbon.

The semifinals will be held on May 8 and 10, with the final taking place on May 12.

## Mayweather-McGregor to be shown live in movie theaters

Movie theaters around the U.S. will show the Aug. 26 fight between Floyd Mayweather Jr. and Conor McGregor.

The bout between the undefeated boxer and the Irish UFC champion will cost \$99.95 on high-definition pay-per-view TV. Tickets for the fight at Las Vegas' T-Mobile Arena will range from \$500 to \$10,000—and there aren't many \$500 seats.

Meanwhile, movie the-

ater tickets for the fighting spectacle of the year are being sold at \$40 per adult in advance. A complete list of participating theaters can be found at [www.FathomEvents.com](http://www.FathomEvents.com).

Fathom Events and Mayweather Promotions announced the partnership on Tuesday.

Mayweather is coming out of retirement for a boxing match against a UFC star who has never boxed professionally.

## Barbara Sinatra, Frank's 4th wife and philanthropist, dies

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Barbara Sinatra, the fourth wife of legendary singer Frank Sinatra and a prominent children's advocate and philanthropist who raised millions of dollars to help abused youngsters, died Tuesday. She was 90.

Sinatra died of natural causes at her Rancho Mirage, California, home surrounded by family and friends, said John Thoresen, director of the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center.

With her husband's help, she founded a nonprofit center in Rancho Mirage in 1986 to provide therapy and other support to young victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

In the years since, Thoresen said, more than 20,000 children have been treated at the center and hundreds of thousands more worldwide through videos it provides.

A former model and Las Vegas showgirl, Barbara Sinatra was a prominent Palm Springs socialite in her own right before she married her husband in 1976, when he was 60 and she 49. They remained wed until his death at 82 in 1998.

It was her third marriage, Sinatra's fourth and the most enduring union for both.

She met Sinatra through her second husband, Zeppo Marx of the famous Marx Brothers

## 'Wonder Woman 2' sets December 2019 release date

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"Wonder Woman 2" is set to storm theaters on Dec. 13, 2019.

Warner Bros. announced the date late Tuesday.

"Wonder Woman" star Gal Gadot is set to reprise her role as Diana of Themyscira. But a director has yet to be set. Patty Jenkins is still in negotiations for the job.

Jenkins' "Wonder Woman" is still chugging along at the box office, with over \$389.7 million from North American theaters. It recently surpassed "Guardians of the

Galaxy Vol. 2" to become the top domestic earner of the summer movie season and the second-highest of the year, behind "Beauty and the Beast."

## Films from Jolie, Clooney, Aronofsky among TIFF premieres



In this combination photo, actors George Clooney appears at the Academy Awards in 2008, left, and Angelina Jolie appears at the world premiere of "Kung Fu Panda 3" in Los Angeles on Jan. 16, 2016.

films set to play include Joe Wright's Winston Churchill biopic "The Darkest Hour," starring Gary Oldman; Guillermo del Toro's Cold War-set fairy tale "The Shape of Water"; Martin McDonagh's "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri" and Alexander Payne's satire "Downsizing," starring Matt Damon and Kristen Wiig, which will have previously opened the Venice Film Festival.

A few actors will be showing off their directorial debuts, including Andy Serkis with the biographical drama "Breathe," starring Andrew Garfield as the polio-stricken disability advocate Robin Cavendish and Greta Gerwig with "Lady Bird," where Saoirse Ronan plays a Sacramento teenager looking to escape her small town.

TIFF will also feature a number of sports biopics including "The Battle of the Sexes," with Emma Stone as Billie Jean King and Steve Carell as Bobby Riggs, and "I, Tonya" with Margot Robbie as Tonya Harding and Sebastian Stan as Jeff Gillooly. Paul Rudd can also be seen as Major League Baseball player turned WWII operative Moe Berg in Ben Lewin's adaptation of "The Catcher Was a Spy."

"Mustang" director Deniz Gamze Erguven will debut her L.A. riots film "Kings," with Halle Berry and Daniel Craig. The festival will also show David Gordon Green's Boston Marathon drama "Stronger" with Jake Gyllenhaal and Tiana Maslany.

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—George Clooney's crime comedy "Suburbicon," Angelina Jolie's Khmer Rouge drama "First They Killed My Father," and Darren Aronofsky's horror feature "mother!" starring Jennifer Lawrence are among the films that will be playing at the Toronto International Film Festival this year.

Festival programmers Piers Handling and Cameron Bailey unveiled the initial 47 film lineup Tuesday.

The Toronto festival, along with Venice and Telluride, is considered one of the launching pads for Hollywood's awards season and a best-of display of films from other festivals.

Some of the buzzy

comedy team. The couple had been close friends and neighbors with Sinatra in Rancho Mirage until she left Marx for the singer in 1973.

Frank Sinatra, then single, had previously been married to his teenage sweetheart Nancy Sinatra, the mother of their children Nancy, Tina and the late Frank Jr.; Ava Gardner, who died in 1990; and Mia Farrow.

A notorious womanizer throughout much of his life, Frank Sinatra didn't ask his fourth wife to marry him until she threatened to leave if he didn't, she recalled in her 2011 memoir, "Lady Blue Eyes: My Life With Frank Sinatra."

Both played prominent roles at the children's center after she founded it in 1986.

"Frank would come over and sit and read to the kids," Thoresen said of the sometimes volatile entertainer.

"But the best way she used Frank," he added with a chuckle, "was she would say, 'I need a half-million dollars for this, so you do a concert and I get half the money.'"

She remained active at the center until recently, pushing for creation of the video program just last year, raising funds and dropping by often to make sure the children had what they needed, Thoresen said.

## Dad suspects he's judged for his stay-at-home status

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm at my wits' end. I have been unemployed for almost two years. My wife has been working during that time. We have two girls I take care of as a stay-at-home dad. Although I have consistently searched for work, I haven't found anything, and it's driving me crazy. I have edited and re-edited my resume, but nothing has happened.

My question is, do women (and men) think stay-at-home dads are lazy people who leech off their wives? I have to admit negative thoughts have crossed my mind, and I sometimes worry that people—relatives—think I'm a low life or incompetent. Is this true?

STAY-AT-HOME DAD

**DEAR DAD:** I know you are frustrated, but you are being needlessly hard on yourself. While some people still think that way, an increasing number no longer do. The traditional roles of the woman staying home and the man being the breadwinner have, of necessity as well as choice, become increasingly reversed since the beginning of the new millennium.

The realities of today are far different than they were 10, 20, 30 years ago. I don't know if your relatives feel the

way you suspect they do, but if you think that's what's happening, talk to them and straighten them out. This truism isn't original, but it applies to much that's happening in the world today: The only thing that's constant is change.

**DEAR ABBY:** My son and his wife live 6 miles from me. They have a 4-year-old daughter and a 2-year-old son. The only time I am guaranteed to see my son and his family is on my birthday. The most I have ever seen my grandkids is four or five times a year.

Last year, I saw them on my birthday and on my grandson's birthday. They never initiate any other interactions. I occasionally see my son if he needs to come by to pick up personal items still at my house. I have the impression that they see her family members frequently.

My son works two jobs and drives 70-plus miles to work four days a week. The only time they really have together is on Sunday. I realize my son is very busy, but I would like to see them more often.

Do you have any suggestions about approaching him about more contact? In the past when I've mentioned it he became defensive, as if I were trying to put a guilt trip on him.

HOPING FOR MORE

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**DEAR HOPING:** Your mistake may be in waiting for your son and daughter-in-law to do the inviting. You might have better luck if you offered to stop by for a visit, or to watch the grandkids so their mother can have a little time for herself. Clearly, your son is on a tight schedule, and he does need to have time alone with his wife and kids. Granted, you would not be seeing your son, but half a loaf is better than none.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



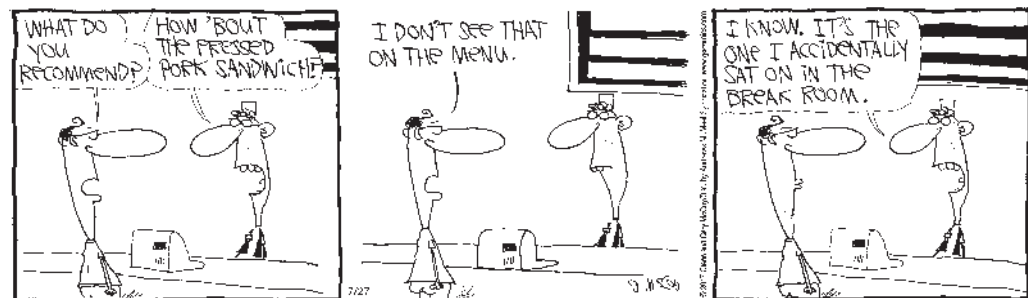
## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Cistern  
4 Tide type  
8 Taxis  
12 Prior  
13 Diamond  
14 Sci-fi  
15 Persis-  
tence  
17 Check  
18 Right  
19 Writes  
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24 Smack  
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26 WWW  
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34 Wee  
dollop  
36 Actress  
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37 Sheet-  
load of  
cookies  
39 Wardrobe  
malfunc-  
tion  
41 Squealer  
42 Goal

**DOWN**

1 Dog doc  
2 "Hail,  
Caesar!"  
3 Slum-  
lord's  
building  
4 Cell  
centers  
5 Brit.  
record  
label  
6 Rental  
units  
(Abbr.)  
7 Intimi-  
date, with  
"out"  
8 Museum  
VIP  
9 Not many  
clue  
10 Seethe  
11 Taxpayer  
IDs  
16 Jungfrau,  
for one  
20 Predeter-  
mine  
21 Barber's  
tool

**Solution time: 24 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 7-27**

**STUMPED?**

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jonathan Rhys Meyers, 40; Maya Rudolph, 45; Julian McMahon, 49; Peggy Fleming, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** Get your facts straight and control your emotions. Good things will come your way if you are dedicated to whatever you want to accomplish. Anger will solve nothing, but common sense and practical applications combined with a willingness to give others the same respect and opportunity you want in return will make a difference. Your numbers are 4, 10, 17, 25, 34, 40, 42.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Keep a lid on any information you have that might affect your reputation or position. It's best to be secretive and to listen carefully before you jump into a conversation that could lead to false impressions. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Research any purchase you want to make before you pull out your credit card. You will face an emotional setback if you trust someone you work with to keep a secret or do his or her part. ★★★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Personal matters will leave you feeling lost or questioning what to do next. Relationship problems are best dealt with openly. Face dilemmas head-on. Getting rid of emotional baggage will give you clear passage to move forward. ★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Domestic concerns and matters pertaining to health and wellness should be taken care of. Don't allow anyone to push you around. Make

up your own mind and do what you feel is in your best interest. Avoid excessive behavior. ★★★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Follow through with your plans. Don't procrastinate when punctuality is important to the result you want to get. Step up and take matters into your own hands. Refuse to let your emotions interfere with making the best choices. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Settle down and take a break from anyone you find demanding or emotionally draining. Get out and do something that you find energizing or that will lift your spirits. Socialize with upbeat friends or visit a place you find calming. ★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Keep looking until you find what you want. If you settle for less, you will have trouble living up to what's expected of you. Rely on your intuition when it comes to making the best choices regarding personal or professional partnerships. ★★

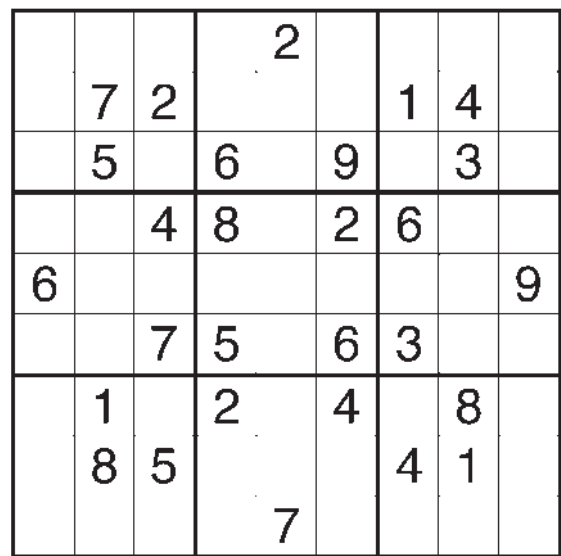
**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Don't take chances with your physical health, and be careful when traveling or working on a strenuous task. Minor accidents and arguments will crop up if you don't play it safe. Be practical and passive. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Check out any job opportunity that looks interesting. Your earning potential will be based on your experience as well as your qualifications. Be bold and give an expressive presentation about what you have to offer. Romance is highlighted. ★★★★★

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



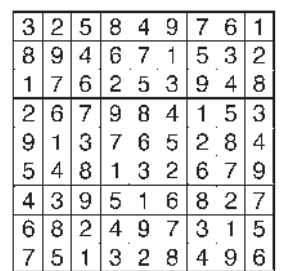
Difficulty Level ★★

7-27

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★

7-27

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Be careful not to divulge too much information. Avoid indulgent individuals and steer clear of the temptation to do too much of anything. A practical attitude will save you grief and loss. ★★



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Contracts, investments and physical improvements can all be made. Be the one to initiate the changes you want to see happen. The results will make you feel good about yourself as well as your future. Romance is highlighted. ★★★★★



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Your persuasive charm will help you get your way, but don't offer incentives that you will not be able to live up to. Honesty and integrity will result in a good working relationship. Take care of your responsibilities and you'll gain respect. ★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are precise, impatient and clever. You are goal-oriented and demanding.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

GORMANDIZING IS DANGEROUS

Solution: 8 letters

E F D A B S O R B T L A R G E  
X G E E T R E A T S F F U T S  
C O L N V V I N H A L E A S K  
E B I U O R O D E E F I E E C  
S B G O D I A R U F T K G G A  
S L H N F N T T A A E E R N N  
I E T L I B I A S C T E O I S  
V S O L U T A R R B I N G E E  
E W A F C M A N E B B O R P L  
L E F K M H A E Q V E U U U F  
M E H U N G E R L U O L N S I  
T T N S G I P W C V E C E H S  
S C A R F N R E E N H T S C H  
H S I G G O H D I N N E R S L  
F A M I S H E D C A N N I L Y

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7/27

Absorb, Banquet, Binge, Bite, Buffet, Cannily, Celebration, Chew, Cram, Delight, Devour, Dine, Dinner, Drink, Eating, Excessive, Famished, Feast, Feed, Gobble, Gorge, Hoggish, Hoover, Hunger, Ingest, Inhale, Keen, Large, Lunch, Meal, Munch, Overindulge, Pigs, Push, Satiated, Scarf, Selfishly, Snacks, Starved, Stuff, Sweet, Treats, Voracious, Wolf

Yesterday's Answer: Spiracles

To purchase the WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1 or #2, order online at: [www.WonderWordBooks.com](http://www.WonderWordBooks.com). (Contains 100 puzzles.)



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WHATZIT Solution: Long time no see

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• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Commonwealth Ports Authority gives notice that there will be a Public Hearing. Details are below:

What: Public Hearing by the U.S. Military  
When: Thursday, July 27, 2017, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Where: Tinian Junior Senior High School Cafeteria  
Purpose: The Pacific Air Force (PACAF) will conduct a briefing to review the Divert initiative with a focus on the Airport Layout Plan.

The floor will be open for questions from stakeholders/attendees.  
Comments/questions? Email cpa.admin@pticom.com or call (670) 237-6500 & dial 0

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: ITB17-CIP-181

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 02, 2017 TIME 11:00 A.M.

“LEASE OF A CLASS “I” VEHICLE FOR THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMNET PROGRAM, OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY LOCATED AT THE FORMER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE, ASCENSION DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WOKING HOURS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMNET REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ  
SAMB/CIP ADMINISTRATOR

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR AIRPORT MASTER PLANNING and AGIS SURVEY SERVICES FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-009-16

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Airport Master Planning and AGIS Survey Services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

These services are being funded by the Federal Aviation Administration and CPA. CPA's selection process is intended to be in compliance with FAA Advisory Circular 150/5100-14E (or latest publication) entitled "Architectural, Engineering and Planning Consultant Services for Airport Grant Projects" and in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the RFQ package. Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted in writing to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager, faxed to (670) 664-3533 and/or emailed to wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than Friday, August 18, 2017, 4:30 p.m., local time.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Capability to perform all or most aspects of the project, such as preliminary design, construction management, bidding services, Airport Layout Plan revisions, environmental evaluations – such as documented category exclusion, financial analysis, preliminary civil design, mechanical and electrical engineering, Demonstrated ability to implement quality control measures, identify problems completely, and implement corrective action promptly in order to meet contract schedule requirements and AIP standards. (WEIGHT 20)
2. Key personnel's professional background and successful relevant experience in airport projects comparable to the proposed projects. (WEIGHT 20)
3. Demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program AGIS standards, NGS requirements, Airport Master Plan standards, project schedules or deadlines, and to complete projects without having major cost escalations, overruns, or disputed claims; and demonstrated ability to meet Airport Improvement Program. (WEIGHT 20)
4. Quality of projects previously undertaken that are comparable to proposed projects. (WEIGHT 10)
5. Familiarity with the project and demonstrated understanding of the projects potential problems and the owner's special concerns. (WEIGHT 10)
6. Capability to furnish a qualified and experienced team for all phases of the Airport Master Planning Services and AGIS Project; and knowledgeable of specific issues at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. (WEIGHT 10)
7. Demonstrated skills, knowledge, experience, and capabilities in AGIS, ability to implement an AGIS Obstruction Survey and Airport Airspace Analysis; ability to complete a comprehensive Airport Master Plan Update; ability to complete projects on budget and on time. (WEIGHT 10)

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf on a compact disc of their statements of professional qualifications no later than 4:30 p.m. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2017. Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

Discussions may be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the agreement requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

An agreement shall be negotiated with the highest qualified consulting firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms may be selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to:

Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio  
Executive Director  
Commonwealth Ports Authority  
P.O. Box 501055  
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

Date: July 25, 2017

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FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2016

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Even as USCIS sets 2017 CW-1 cap at 12,997, CUC: Gulick, DHS ignoring advice on CW-1 cap 'mind'

Cap is 1 less than 2016

Sirok discloses DHS' confidential deal with

Schor ranking

Hafa

U14 Fest

The coach

Yankees weather rain, Royals comeback

PAGE 25

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

President

Rota resident director for Finance Office and acting Rota Municipality treasurer Vivian Ogo Hocog was arrested and taken to Saipan on Friday for allegedly embezzling between \$15,000 and \$100,000 from miscellaneous accounts from July

By JC LUTJES REPORTER

Allowing the process of the things that Torres and the panel in the 902, the federal p Torres

to make required disads received, forgery, t cards and issuance ITA on Page 4

corp. last Friday, said C informed him that cess of gathering the documents could out 2 to 3 weeks if e are no discrepan-s indicated by the rcermed agencies. IMHC is still ing for pro-zmt related ts (financial department of 'MI Revenue Yance) from Page 26

ppines in AEC

midfielder- Tekano

10



# Frazier's run-scoring triple play helps Yanks top Reds, 4-2



**NEW YORK** (AP)—Todd Frazier had an unforgettable first at-bat in his home debut at Yankee Stadium, grounding into the major leagues' first run-scoring triple play since 2006 as New York beat the Cincinnati Reds 4-2 Tuesday night.

Frazier hit a bases-loaded grounder in the second up the middle, and shortstop Jose Peraza gloved it, stepped on second and threw to first. Didi Gregorius, who had been on second base, held up when the ball was hit, in case it was caught. He was late to advance, and first baseman Joey Votto's throw across the diamond caught him in a run-down. Gregorius was called out for running wide of base-line trying to avoid a tag.

Rookie Jordan Montgomery (7-5) held the Reds hitless until Scott Schebler broke an 0-for-20 slump with a leadoff double in the sixth. Montgomery gave up two hits in 6 2/3 innings, and Aroldis Chapman closed for his 12th save.

Last-place Cincinnati lost for the 10th time in 12 games as rookie Luis Castillo (1-4) gave up three runs in five innings. Billy Hamilton's bid for a tying extra-base hit in the eighth was thwarted when pinch-runner Zack Cozart, out of the starting lineup to rest his tender quadriceps, hobbled into third.

## Cubs 7, White Sox 2

In Chicago, Willson Contreras drove in four runs and Carl Edwards Jr. provided some timely relief.

Ben Zobrist reached four times from the leadoff spot as the Cubs won for the ninth time in 11 games since the All-Star break. John Lackey (7-9) became the first major leaguer in two years to hit four batters in two years, but managed to get into the sixth inning.

The AL-worst White Sox lost for the 10th time in 11 games. Carlos Rodon (1-4) matched a career high with 11 strikeouts and hit a two-run double for his first career hit, but allowed four runs and seven hits in four innings.

## Astros 5, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Derek Fisher drove in two runs just hours after arriving in Philadelphia and Charlie Morton (8-4) gave up three hits in seven innings and struck out nine.

Jose Altuve extended his hitting streak to 17 straight games with a sixth-inning double to help the AL West-leading Astros improve to an American League-best 67-33. Houston is 9-0 in inter-league play.

Houston third baseman Alex Bregman left with discomfort in his right hamstring after tri-



ple punched it down the right-field line, with Curtis Granderson aboard after an inning-opening single.

Granderson scored and Cespedes followed him home on Wil Myers' throwing error for a 6-4 lead.

Seth Lugo (5-2) went at least six innings for his third straight start, which has produced two wins.

Jose Torres (5-3), who worked 1 2/3 innings, took the loss.

## Giants 11, Pirates 3

In San Francisco, Madison Bumgarner allowed one run over five innings for his first win of the season, and the Giants beat the Pirates.

Eduardo Nunez drove in two runs in his final game with San Francisco. The veteran infielder was traded to Boston for two minor leaguers. He was pulled in the fifth inning and was later seen on television shaking hands with several teammates in the Giants' clubhouse. The deal was announced after a few minutes after the final out.

Bumgarner (1-4) also singled and scored, Buster Posey had three hits and an RBI and Joe Panik added a bases-loaded triple as struggling San Francisco won for only the fifth time in 16 games.

Jameson Taillon (6-4) took the loss, giving up 10 runs in three innings.

## Dodgers 6, Twins 2

In Los Angeles, Chris Taylor hit two run-scoring doubles and the Dodgers became baseball's first team to reach the 70-win mark with a victory over the Twins.

Kenta Maeda (9-4) pitched five solid innings for the Dodgers, who have won four straight and 35 of their last 41.

After the Twins took a 1-0 lead on Zack Granite's single in the third, the Dodgers took command with four runs against Minnesota starter Jose Berrios (9-4) in the fourth. Joc Pederson doubled off the center-field wall to tie it and Yasiel Puig's RBI single put the Dodgers ahead. Taylor's first double drove in two more.

Taylor is 23 for 44 since the All-Star break. His two hits Tuesday gave him four consecutive multi-hit games.

Maeda allowed two runs — one earned — and five hits and two walks, striking out four.

Josh Ravin threw the final three innings to earn his first career save.

pling and scoring in the third. On Monday, outfielder George Springer departed with a left quadriceps injury that resulted in Fisher's call-up.

Nick Pivetta (3-6) allowed five runs and six hits in six innings.

## Brewers 8, Nationals 0

In Washington, Travis Shaw, Eric Thames and Manny Pina homered, and Zach Davies (12-4) gave up three hits in 7 2/3 innings.

Shaw hit a three-run homer in a four-run fourth, and Thames and Pina connected back-to-back in the fifth off Edwin Jackson (1-1).

## Blue Jays 4, Athletics 1

In Toronto, Cesar Valdez (1-0) allowed one run and five hits over a career-high six innings to win for the first time since defeating Houston in his major league debut on May 3, 2010. Joe Smith and Ryan Tepera each worked one inning. Roberto Osuna finished for his 26th save in 30 chances.

With more than half a dozen scouts on hand to monitor his performance ahead of the July 31 trade deadline, Oakland starter Sonny Gray (6-5) allowed four runs, none earned, in six innings.

## Rays 5, Orioles 4

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Tim Beckham's three-run homer capped a five-run second inning off Wade Miley (4-9). And Tampa Bay stopped a five-game losing streak.

Rookie Jake Faria (5-1)

gave up three runs and seven hits in 7 1/3 innings, and Alex Colome pitched the ninth for his 29th save.

## Royals 3, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Whit Merrifield homered on the first pitch from Michael Fulmer (10-8), who allowed three runs and eight hits in eight innings.

Danny Duffy (7-6) have up one run and six hits in 6 1/3 innings. Three relievers finished, with Kelvin Herrera pitching a perfect ninth for his 21st save.

Detroit loaded the bases in the seventh, but Nicholas Castellanos — in a 0-for-18 slump — grounded into a forceout against Peter Moylan, ending the threat.

## Indians 11, Angels 7, 11 innings

In Cleveland, Edwin Encarnacion hit a grand slam in the 11th inning as the Indians, who wasted a seven-run lead, beat the Angels for their fifth straight win.

Encarnacion's shot into the left-field bleachers off Bud Norris capped a strange night for the Indians, who led 7-0 after two innings.

But Cleveland couldn't do anything until the 11th, which began with rookie Bradley Zimmer drawing a leadoff walk and stealing second. Zimmer, who hit a grand slam in Cleveland's seven-run second, moved up when Norris unleashed a wild pitch while walking Francisco Lindor.

Angels manager Mike Scioscia then walked Michael

Brantley and pulled in a fifth infielder before Encarnacion drove Norris' first pitch into the stands.

## Rangers 10, Marlins 4

In Arlington, Texas, Joey Gallo homered twice, Mike Napoli and Rougned Odor also went deep, and the Rangers slugged past the Marlins.

When Gallo led off the third inning with a towering blast into the second deck of seats, Marlins right fielder and MLB home run co-leader Giancarlo Stanton never even moved. That broke a 1-all tie and put the Rangers ahead to stay.

Marlins starter Dan Straily (7-6) gave up a season-high six runs and 10 hits over four innings, including three homers.

Cole Hamels (5-1) allowed four runs and six hits over six innings for the win.

## Cardinals 3, Rockies 2

In St. Louis, Harrison Bader doubled leading off the ninth inning for his first major league hit and slid across the plate to score the winning run of his debut on Jedd Gyorko's short sacrifice fly, lifting the Cardinals over the Rockies.

The 23-year-old, taken on the third round of the 2015 amateur draft, was brought up before the game when Dexter Fowler was placed on the disabled list with a strained left wrist.

Bader doubled down the left-field line against Jake McGee (0-1) leading off the ninth.

Bader was batting .403 (29 for 72) with 10 homers against lefties at Triple-A Memphis this year. Greg Garcia sacrificed as Bader took third, and Gyorko hit a fly near the right-field line that Carlos Gonzalez caught 248 feet from the plate. The speedy Bader slid across jubilantly as Gonzalez's one-hop throw went slightly up the third-base line.

## Braves 8, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Mike Foltynewicz went six strong innings to win again, Kurt Suzuki homered twice and the Braves beat the Diamondbacks.

Suzuki's two-run homer off reliever J.J. Hoover (1-1) broke a 2-2 tie and a throwing error by Arizona catcher Chris Iannetta allowed two more to score in a four-run seventh.

Suzuki and Johan Camargo hit consecutive homers off Andrew Chafin in the eighth. Matt Kemp also homered and tripled for Atlanta.

Foltynewicz (9-5) gave up two runs and five hits, striking out nine, to improve to 6-0 in his last nine starts.

## Mets 6, Padres 5

In San Diego, Yoenis Cespedes had three RBIs and finished a single shy of the cycle to lift the Mets past the Padres.

The Mets won for the sixth time in seven games.

Cespedes' check-swing triple in the seventh inning was the difference. Facing reliever Phil Maton, Cespedes tried to hold up on a pitch and instead



# Curry, Warriors finalize \$201M, 5-year deal



**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—Stephen Curry has delivered his share of success already to a franchise that desperately needed it. Now, he's being paid for all he has done—and certainly will do.

Curry finalized his new contract Tuesday, signing a \$201 million, five-year deal with the champion Golden State Warriors that initially was the richest ever, until James Harden topped it with a \$228 million extension from the Rockets.

Considered overlooked and undersized when he arrived on the NBA scene after being

drafted seventh overall out of Davidson College in 2009, Curry has silenced the doubters with every spot-on heave from half-court.

The two-time NBA MVP, who earned \$12 million this season as one of the league's biggest bargains, averaged 28.1 points in the playoffs while also contributing 6.7 assists and 6.2 rebounds. Now, he will earn \$40 million per season.

"Just happy to be a leader on this team that can understand the goals that we set out for ourselves and try to get it done the best way we could," Curry said immediately after the Game 5 title clincher in the NBA Finals last month.



AP  
In this Nov. 10, 2016, file photo, Golden State Warriors guard Stephen Curry celebrates after hitting a 3-point basket and drawing a foul from the Denver Nuggets during the second half of an NBA basketball game, in Denver.

## Warriors' Draymond Green sued over alleged assault by couple

**OAKLAND, Calif.** (AP)—Golden State Warriors star Draymond Green was sued Tuesday by a couple who claim he and his entourage assaulted them last year in Michigan.

Jermaine Edmondson and Bianca Williams filed the lawsuit seeking unspecified monetary damages in California's Alameda County.

The lawsuit claims Green bumped into them at a night club in East Lansing last summer and that the forward bullied Edmondson, who was then a football player at Michigan State University, about how he pays for scholarships for people like him. It claims men in his entourage then physically assaulted him, pushing him against a wall and choking him. When his girlfriend tried to intervene, one of the men pushed her into a wall, the lawsuit says.

The next night they ran into Green at a restaurant

and when the couple approached him to make peace, he slapped Edmondson in the face, the lawsuit claims.

Green did not immediately respond to a text message seeking comment.

The couple's lawyer, Lisa Bloom, said at a news conference in Los Angeles Tuesday that they decided to file a lawsuit because Green has refused to accept responsibility for the July 2016 incidents.

"The filing of this lawsuit was a last resort," Bloom said.

Green, a former Michigan State Spartan, last year paid \$560 for a noise violation in a deal that got rid of a misdemeanor assault-and-battery charge filed in the case.

Green has been an essential member of the Warriors team that has won two championships in the past three years, and last month was named the NBA's Defensive Player of the Year.

NBA Finals MVP Kevin Durant also signed his new contract worth approximately \$53 million over the next two years as Golden State announced its deals with returning free agents.

Sure, Durant's spectacular postseason may have shined brighter as he hoisted his MVP hardware, yet Curry did so much on the way to his second title in three years. From his dazzling dribbling, shot-making and the way he dishes off, Curry has been brilliant—but what he does for the Warriors as an ambassador in the community is as much a part of what makes him special as anything else.

He is the face of a franchise that has become the standard by which every other organization is measured.

When coach Steve Kerr was asked in early April about how Curry had taken on more of the load with Durant nursing a left knee injury, the 2016

Coach of the Year touched on his point guard's unfailing ability to guide Golden State.

"I don't think he's been any different with KD out in terms of his leadership. He's still just Steph," Kerr said. "He's humble and cocky at the same time, which is why we like him. He's a very humble, modest human being, which the guys respect. And he's an arrogant basketball player, which is what you need to be a superstar. He believes in himself and he goes out there looking to light it up every night. You take him off the floor you won't find a kinder, gentler human being. It's a pretty powerful force."

Curry is getting paid for all of those things. He has led the turnaround of a franchise from longtime laughingstock to regular championship contender.

Now, he wants to build a dynasty with KD by his side. Durant accepted less money for the coming sea-

son so the Warriors' core could remain intact.

From spending an off-day at an inner-city elementary school to donating three bed nets for every 3-pointer he makes to fight malaria through Nothing But Nets, Curry is as comfortable hanging with kids—hat on backward, of course—as he is intensely dueling Durant in 3-point shootouts on the practice floor or driving past LeBron James to score on the NBA's biggest stage.

Curry never worried about his own production, the scrutiny of his diminished points or shooting percentages playing alongside fellow superstar Durant this season.

A year after breaking his own NBA record with 402 3-pointers, Curry rarely finished quarters with those jaw-dropping 3s that were so memorable from the previous season—and that was fine, because Golden State

kept winning. The Warriors were sharing the ball in Kerr's deep rotation, developing into a close-knit group with great chemistry despite all the new faces.

But it wasn't until the Warriors blew a 14-point lead in the fourth quarter of a demoralizing 109-108 loss at Cleveland on Christmas Day that Curry reached the realization he must do more.

"I learned a lot about myself," he said. "After that Christmas Day game I kind of understood that we have such high-IQ players that if I could be aggressive, do what I do and need to do every single night, everything will kind of flow from that."

"I think the proof is obviously in what we were able to accomplish from that point on in the regular season, being 16-1 in the playoffs, everybody being the best version of themselves and putting all the puzzle pieces together."



**OXNARD, Calif.** (AP)—Dak Prescott climbed the stairs to the VIP tent that once served as Tony Romo's perch for interviews at training camp, facing a phalanx of cameras similar to the one his predecessor and the longtime Dallas starter used to see.

It's Prescott's job now, and the second-year star quarterback has the attention to prove it.

"Last year I came in and I was just trying to figure everything out," Prescott said on the opening morning of camp in California.

"Everything I do (now) they're watching. Not just you guys but my teammates, the coaches as well. But that's fun to me. That's something that I embrace."

An afterthought this time

## Prescott controls Cowboys at camp, quite a switch in a year

a year ago as a fourth-round pick and third-teamer behind Romo and Kellen Moore, Prescott's outlook first changed when Moore broke an ankle in a training camp practice. Then Romo went down with a back injury in the third preseason game.

Prescott answered with one of the best rookie seasons in NFL history, leading the Cowboys to the top seed in the NFC at 13-3 before a divisional playoff loss to Green Bay.

Romo was relegated to the backup job when he was healthy again, and is now preparing for his debut in the TV booth as the lead analyst for CBS after Dallas released him. The Cowboys went 1-11 without an injured Romo in a last-place 4-12 season the year

before Prescott arrived.

"A lot more comfortable than I ever thought I would be this time last year or beyond not having Romo," said owner and general manager Jerry Jones, who gave Romo the first \$100 million contract in franchise history four years ago. "So that has everything to do with the year that Dak had and more importantly the way Dak is approaching this year."

Last year, Prescott bristled at the idea of "vanilla defenses" when he was coming off two strong preseason showings—the week before Romo got hurt. This year, he figures to hear the term "sophomore slump." He'll shrug at that, too.

Prescott won NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year honors over backfield mate and

NFL rushing leader Ezekiel Elliott because he led the Cowboys to a franchise-record 11 straight wins.

The former Mississippi State standout, the first drafted quarterback in seven years for Dallas, tied Ben Roethlisberger's rookie record of 13 wins and set rookie marks in passer rating (104.9) and fewest interceptions (four, to go with 23 touchdowns).

"He's got an insatiable appetite to want to be the best, to improve," executive vice president of personnel Stephen Jones said. "I can assure you there are 16 teams on our schedule this year that have watched every play that Dak ran and they are going to have all sorts of things that are going to challenge him."

He knows that."

Receiver Dez Bryant, a 2014 All-Pro when Romo led the Cowboys to just their second playoff win since their most recent Super Bowl 22 years ago, is growing weary of Romo questions, declaring the Cowboys are "Dak's team."

Bryant raves about Prescott's leadership skills, illustrated when he coaxed Bryant and Elliott into film rooms for extra study during the offseason at the team's new practice facility in suburban Frisco.

"I just like the way he handles his business," Bryant said. "That's why he's a great football player, just because of who he is as a person. The thing that he's got, you can't teach. We respect that. We're

going to follow that."

Prescott's busy offseason included cheering with unbridled joy when the Mississippi State women's basketball team ended UConn's 111-game winning streak at the Final Four in Dallas.

He signed several endorsement deals and headlined youth camps in his hometown of Haughton, Louisiana, and the Dallas area. But with off-field issues dominating headlines for the Cowboys, Prescott quietly wrapped up the offseason by working out in Florida.

"There's a lot that went on in the offseason, but it means absolutely nothing," he said. "The only thing that matters is what I do and this team does next."

And it's his team, not Romo's.



By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



Northern Marianas Athletics officials met last Saturday to begin its preparation for the

2018 Micronesian Athletic Championships, which Saipan will be hosting from June 14 to 16. The meeting was held at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Top priority is the venue, the Oleai track and field, as it still needs to get Level II certification from the International Association of Athletics Federation. The track oval was closed for more than a year and was renovated and finished in late June.

This will be the second time the CNMI will be hosting the MAC, the first one was in December 2005 when the Commonwealth bagged 24 medals—five gold, six silver, and 13 bronze medals. The CNMI also hosted the 2008 Oceania Athletics Championship winning sil-

# NMA prepares for MAC hosting



Northern Marianas Athletics president Ramon A. Tebuteb, seated center, leads the meeting of the local organizing committee for the 2018 Micronesian Athletics Championship Saipan will be hosting next year.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

of the track. NMA officials are expecting the IAAF inspector to arrive next month.

“We want to make sure our development programs would continue once the track is open again. We’re still waiting for the eight-lane track to be certified by the IAAF,” said Rangamar.

IAAF rules state that application for certification must have full details of the product (track) including materials and technical drawings, while laboratories they duly recognize should test samples of the materials used.

The IAAF track certification is necessary to make sure the facility is ready for competition to secure the athletes and the integrity of their performances. The Oleai track was the only Level II facility in the region but deteriorated over the years.

After the MAC, the next major competition that Saipan will be hosting is the 2021 Pacific Mini Games.

## Carol back in Fiji, preps up for Junior ITF tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The CNMI’s Carol Lee resumes her training at the ITF/OTF regional facility in Fiji to prepare for another world-ranking tournament.

Lee, who completed her stint in the 2017 Fed Cup Asia/Oceania Zone Group II in Tajikistan last week and helped Pacific Oceania finish fifth in the pool, returned to Fiji last Tuesday and will be playing in the Oceania Closed Junior Championships 2017. The tournament will run from Aug. 7 to 11 in Lautoka and is a Grade B2 event under the Juniors ITF Circuit. The singles champion in the

Oceania Closed will be awarded 120 ranking points, while 80, 60, 40, 25, and 10 will go to the runner-up, semifinalists, quarterfinalists, losers in Last 16, and losers in Last 32. Eighty and 60 points will be given to the doubles champions and runners-up, and 40, 25, and 10 to the semifinalists, quarterfinalists, and losers in Last 16.

“It’s a big tournament and I will be training in Fiji for two weeks to prepare for the competition,” said Lee, who joined the same event last year and got only one win.

She defeated Kaitlyn Portela of Australia in the Round of 32, 4-0, 4-1, but lost to Danie-



la Kovacevic, also from the Land Down Under, in the Round of 16, 3-5, -5. In the doubles, Lee and Palau’s Ayana Rengil bowed to Australia’s Kaitlin Staines and Jessica Zaviacic in the opening round, 3-5, 3-5.

The CNMI player is hoping that the matches she played in the Fed Cup in Tajikistan would help her prepare for tough games in this year’s Oceania Closed and allow her to get better results.

“Playing one single and three doubles games gave me more confidence as I challenged women players in the Top 900 and below in the world during the Fed Cup,” the 15-year-old Lee said.

squad’s 2-3 loss to Hakone FC in their first meeting. With F. Marinos getting back at Hakone FC, the former now has a 3-0-1 record to share the top spot with the latter.

Hakone FC missed keeping the solo lead as it had only Krizel Tuazon and Sharmaine Francisco scoring for the squad. Hakone FC earlier bagged its third win against Marianas Health Armada, 12-1. Tuazon collected four goals in their easy victory over Marianas Health Armada last Tuesday, while Katrina Costales and Paulyn Joyce chipped in three apiece, and Airda Ngalongalo registered one. Jerlyn Castillo and Britally Wally scored the two goals for Marianas Health Armada, which fell to a 1-0-2 mark.

Meanwhile, there is also a tie for the lead in the co-ed U12.

Kanoa Football Club 2 earned a division best 3-0-1

record after crushing Kanoa FC 1 last Tuesday, 12-1. SSS then joined Kanoa FC 2 at the top spot following a similar convincing victory against Kanoa FC 1 yesterday, 11-5.

Six Kanoa FC 2 players teamed up in whipping Kanoa FC 1. Markus Toves topped the list with his three goals, while John Mark Anastacio, Andrew Sablan, Nolan Nge-waki, and Ruben Guerrero recorded two apiece, and Roni-an Laxamana made one. Jim Maniago logged the only goal for Kanoa FC 1, which has yet to break into the win column after four games.

In the SSS-Kanoa FC 1 tiff yesterday, Sean Gil fired seven goals to give the former to its third win. Praise Woo added two goals, while Garrett Weaver and Richard Castro registered one each. Joemil Antonio led Kanoa FC 1’s losing effort with his hat trick, while Maniago posted two goals.

ver and two bronze medals. NMA development officer

Elias Rangamar said they are preparing for the re-opening

## Lions to hold fundraising bike race

The Saipan Unity Lions Club will be holding a fundraising bicycle race on Sunday in Banzai Cliff in Marpi. Assembly time is at 5am and race starts at around 5:30am.

The 60-kilometer course will start and end at Banzai Cliff. From Banzai Cliff, participants would make three loops heading to Mobil Tanapag.

SULC official Joe Digno said registration is still open

and walk in are also welcome to join on race day. Registration fee is \$15 that comes with an event T-shirt.

Digno said proceeds of the race would go to Karidat Social Services for their various charity projects. “[SULC] has been committed in helping Karidat fund its various programs for our community.”

They had also asked the Department of Public Safety

to assist them in directing the flow of traffic in the race-course to keep the bikers safe from other motorists.

Exciting prizes will also be given away in the after-event raffle.

For more information, call Digno at 287-4574 or see race officials on race day. (Jon Perez)

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

#### AMERICAN LEAGUE

##### East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	55	47	.539	—
New York	52	46	.531	1
Tampa Bay	52	49	.515	2½
Baltimore	48	52	.480	6
Toronto	46	54	.460	8

##### Central Division

Cleveland	53	45	.541	—
Kansas City	52	47	.525	1½
Minnesota	49	50	.495	4½
Detroit	45	54	.455	8½
Chicago	39	58	.402	13½

##### West Division

Houston	67	33	.670	—
Seattle	51	51	.500	17
Texas	49	51	.490	18
Los Angeles	49	52	.485	18½
Oakland	44	56	.440	23

#### NATIONAL LEAGUE

##### East Division

Washington	59	39	.602	—
Atlanta	48	51	.485	11½
New York	47	51	.480	12
Miami	45	53	.459	14
Philadelphia	34	64	.347	25

##### Central Division

Milwaukee	54	48	.529	—
Chicago	52	47	.525	½
Pittsburgh	50	51	.495	3½
St. Louis	49	51	.490	4
Cincinnati	41	59	.410	12

##### West Division

Los Angeles	70	31	.693	—
Arizona	57	43	.570	12½
Colorado	58	44	.569	12½
San Diego	43	57	.430	26½
San Francisco	39	63	.382	31½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## SAIPAN

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Kirro Batino logged the other goal for the losing squad.

4Gives FC’s tough defeat came just a day after it eased past HK SSS last Tuesday, 12-1. 4Gives FC broke away in the second half after drilling six goals in the final 20 minutes of the one-sided game. Ronnel Ocanada and Omelau nailed three goals apiece for 4Gives FC, while Batino, Royce Angelo Ben, and Edwin Kim contributed one each. David Kim handed HK its lone goal as the team remains winless after three games.

In the girls U17, F. Marinos notched its third straight victory after dropping its debut following a 4-2 triumph over Hakone FC yesterday.

Guine Borja knocked in two goals, while Bernadette Horey and Ruschelle Valino added one each to lift F. Marinos to the victory, which avenged the



# 33rd Saipan International Fishing Tournament Winners

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS



Debbie 1 captain, crewmembers, and supporters are joined in the photo by organizers and sponsors of the 33rd Saipan International Fishing Tournament during the awards ceremony held at The Magellan's of the Pacific Islands Club.



AJ skipper Bob Hudkins, with trophy on hand, and his anglers receive the second place prizes in the yellow fin category.



Awards ceremony host L.J. Castro, left, calls out Aquaholics captain and anglers to receive the first place prizes in the billfish division.



A Jesus Maria crewmember hoists their first place trophy in the wahoo category.



Ray Sablan boat anglers pose with their runner-up trophy in the wahoo category.



San Juan anglers pose with their trophy after ruling the total weight category.



Trophy Bayliner anglers proudly show their third place prizes in the wahoo division.





Frazier's run-scoring triple play helps Yanks top Reds, 4-2

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Curry, Warriors finalize \$201M, 5-year deal

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## 3 SSC members set records

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**N**orthern Mariana Islands Swimming Federation certified the age group records that three Saipan Swim Club members earned when they competed in the 69th Annual Keo Nakama Invitational at the Veterans' Memorial Aquatic Center in Hawaii early this month.

Kento Akimaru's records in the 15 to 16 age group's 800m and 1,500m freestyle along with Jinno'suke Suzuki's marks in the 11 to 12's 400m, 800m, and 1,500m freestyle events were made official by NMISF yesterday. Jinno'suke's brother, Lennosuke, was the third SSC member to get his age group record (13

to 14's 200m freestyle) certified.

The 16-year-old Akimaru broke the oldest age group record in CNMI swimming as his 17:37.61 in the 1,500m freestyle event surpassed the 17:41.15 made by former SSC member and Olympian Jonathan Sakov-

ich 30 years ago. The CNMI Sports Hall of Famer registered the age group mark on Feb. 14, 1987.

In the 800m freestyle, Akimaru's 9:12.52 eclipsed the 9:12.98 former Tsunami Saipan swimmer Kensuke Kimura posted on Jan. 21,



AKIMARU



J. SUZUKI



L. SUZUKI

2012. Akimaru went on to get the top honors in the men's 15 to 16 age group of the Hawaii meet held from June 30 to July 2, beating 28 other swimmers in the division. The SSC swimmer collected 60 points from nine events to place away ahead of Hawaii

Swimming Club-Oahu's Josh Lujan (40) and Pearl City Aquatics' Matthew Takai (23 points).

In the 11 to 12 age group, Jinno'suke reset his own records. The 11-year-old swimmer's 4:41.01 in the 400m freestyle was more than five

seconds better than the old age group mark (4:46.40) he registered on March 25, 2017, during the 2017 SSC International Invitational Meet. Then in the 800m freestyle, Jinno'suke chopped off nearly 12 seconds from the previous re-

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## Zarinae off to London next month



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Zarinae Spong, left, is hoping to improve her personal best times when she sees action in the World Athletics Championship in London next month.

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

Reigning Micronesian sprint queen Zarinae Spong will be the lone representative from the CNMI in next month's World Championship in Athletics in London, the United Kingdom.

The 16th edition of the biennial games will be held at the London Olympic Stadium at Marshgate Lane from Aug. 4 to 13.

Northern Marianas Athletics development officer Elias Rangamar said he's been training Spong on a schedule that they worked on since the



latter also balances her studies at the Northern Marianas College and two jobs.

"She's committed to training and improving her time. That's what I like with her. And she's been consistent. She's always on time for our 5am sessions, it shows that she's dedicated to her goals," Rangamar told *Saipan Tribune*.

"We're working on a schedule since she's working and at the same time studying. We're

ding time trials and we're working on improving her techniques," added Rangamar.

Spong is the reigning 100- and 200-meter sprints gold medalist, topping both events in last year's Micronesian Athletics Championships hosted by Pohnpei State of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Spong collected two of the CNMI's three gold medals in the fifth edition of the MAC in Kolonia, Pohnpei.

She ruled the 100m with a 13.35 PBT then set a championship record in the 200m run by posting a time of 27.87 sec-

See ZARINAE on Page 26

## Saipan Elite, F. Marinos move on top

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

Saipan Elite won the battle of unbeaten teams, while F. Marinos kept its streak in the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament.

In the boys U16 division, Saipan Elite survived 4Gives FC in yesterday's final game

at the TSL Sports Complex, 4-3, to gain the No. 1 spot in the team standings. Saipan Elite improved its win-draw-loss record to 3-1-0, while 4Gives dropped to second place with its 2-1-1 mark.

Saipan Elite built enough cushion in the first half to withstand 4Gives FC's rally in the second. Rohan Basnet

had a pair of goals in the opening 20 minutes, while Rintaro Miyawaki and Oliver Lee added one each also in the first half for Saipan Elite's 4-1 halftime edge. Andrew Omelau made 4Gives FC's lone goal in the first frame and added one more in the second, while

See SAIPAN on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Elite's Jaydee Jose, left, dribbles in front of 4Gives FC's Royce Angelo Ben during the first half of their boys U16 division game in the Saipan Soccer School's 2017 Youth Summer Futsal Tournament yesterday at the TSL Sports Complex.